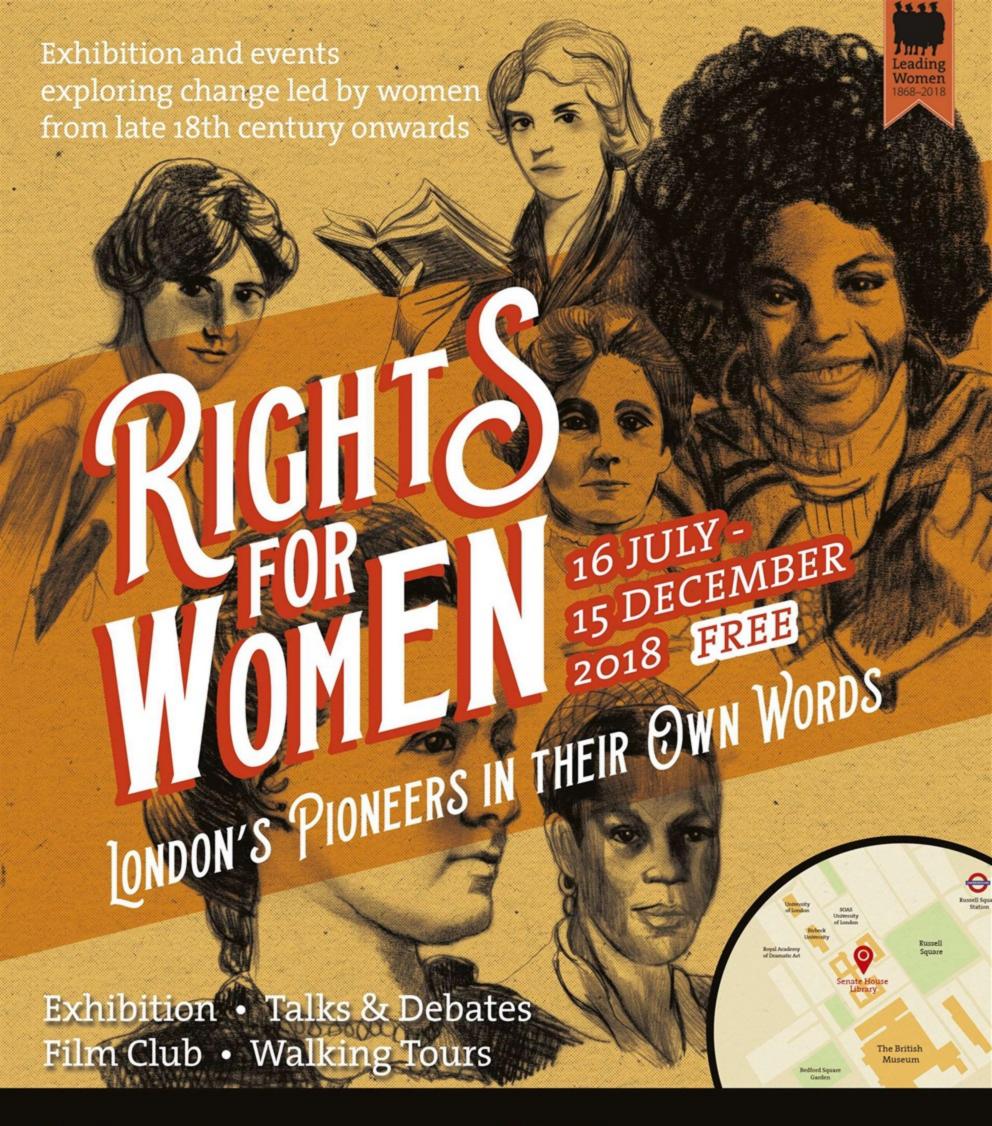
1968 A year of demonstration, death and despair that changed the world BRINGING THE AST TO LIFE REVEALED EMPIRES AT WAR GREEC How the ancient world was rocked by a clash of superpowers in 197 BC The making From hope to hell of an icon on the doomed ship THOMAS MORE Henry VIII's chancellor was torn between King and God **FREPORTS OF MY DEATH ARE GREATLY EXAGGERATED**"

ISSUE 59 / SEPTEMBER 2018 / £4.99

10 people who read their own obituaries





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# Phalanx for the memories



Given the **insatiable appetite** for stories about the Classical world, it came as something of a surprise to learn quite how little many people know about **the clash of ancient superpowers** that redefined that period. At the time, the Roman Republic was far from the all-conquering force it would become. Yet by invading the land **Alexander the Great** had

until recently called home, it took a huge step towards **dominating the Mediterranean**. Bestselling author **Ben Kane** takes up the tale on page 28.

For those who prefer their history **a little more recent**, don't miss Jon Savage's exploration of a series of events that came to define 1968 as a year of protest (*p38*), where **clashes around the world** between the establishment and those looking for a brighter future would have **bleak consequences**.

And if it's fascinating characters from the past that you're after, you've come to the right place, with fabulous pieces on **Henry VIII's friend and chancellor Sir Thomas More** (*p48*); the tragic **Mexican artist and icon Frida Kahlo** (*p55*); and a host of people unlucky enough to read their own obituaries (*p62*).

Paul McGuinness Editor

Don't miss our October issue, on sale 6 September

# **CONTRIBUTORS**



Ben Kane For our cover feature this issue we turned to the

Sunday Times bestselling author of impeccably researched historical fiction. See page 28



A lecturer in early modern history at the University of

Sussex, Joanne explores the split loyalties of Henry VIII's chancellor, Thomas More. See page 48



Jon Savage One of Britain's finest music journalists, Jon has also written

extensively about youth culture and the sixties. This issue, he explores the dark side of 1968. See page 38

# THIS MONTH WE'VE LEARNED...

2

American author Mark Twain was reported to have died twice before he actually passed away in 1910. He described the first report of his death as "an exaggeration". See page 62. £5,000

The equivalent cost today for a pineapple in 16th-century England. Many buildings – like St Paul's Cathedral in London – sport golden pineapples as exotic status symbols. See page 76.

3

The number of dogs that survived the sinking of the Titanic in 1912. An on-board dog show had been planned for 15 April, the day the great ship vanished under the waves. See page 65.

# ON THE COVER



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# **SEPTEMBER 2018**

# Frida Kahlo's first accident was on a bus; this man was her second

**LIKE IT?** 

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More details on our

special offer on **p26** 

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### Rome vs Greece

Macedon faced down the Roman Republic in the second-century BC, in a war that would reshape both of their futures....p28

# There's a Riot Going On

Around the world, 1968 was a year in which the sparks of protest burst into flame - with violent consequences.....p38

### Split Lovaties

Forced to choose between Henry VIII and his faith, Tudor chancellor Thomas More had no good options.....

### The Tortured Artist

How a bus accident turned Frida Kahlo into an artist and activist......p55

# Top 10: Exaggerated Deaths

What would you do if the press had wrongly printed your obituary?.....p62

### In Pics: The Titanic

The luxury of the "unsinkable" passenger liner, and the tragedy of April 1912.....p65



A&P

# Ask the Experts

Your questions answered...

Darwin's theories on evolution?

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### **Books**

A look at the new releases...

### Postcards from the Past

Your snaps from across the globe.....p90

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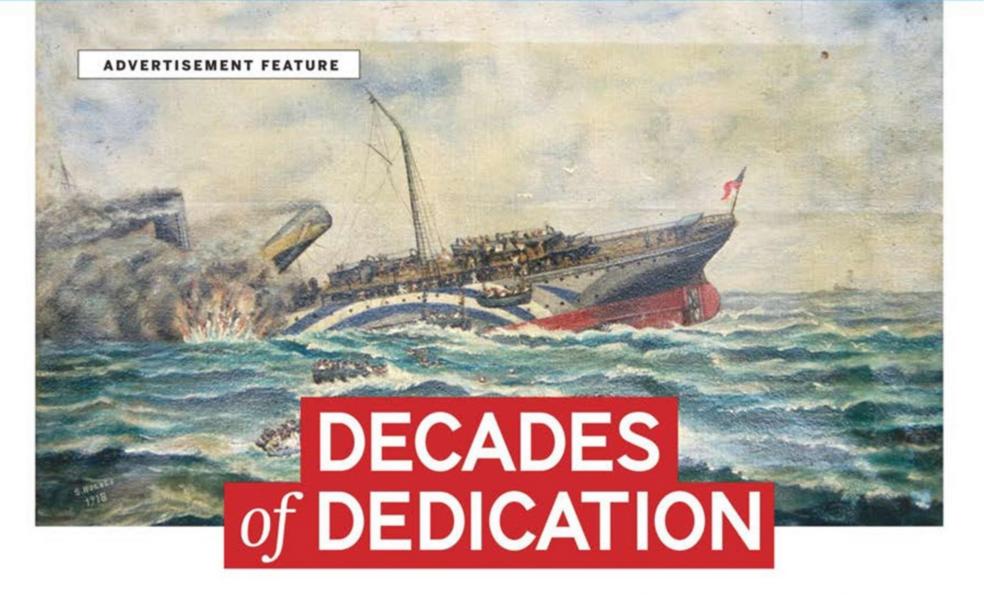
# 1937 CAN'T FACE IT Today, calls are growing stronger for beauty contests to be consigned to the history books once and for all, but at least competitions like this one are a thing of the past. In order to keep the judges, and the large audience, from picking the most beautiful based only on their faces, contestants in this London pageant had to wear paper bags over their heads. It must have made for a rather nail-biting walk alongside the pool - and, of course, untidy nails may have hurt their chances. 7 SEPTEMBER 2018











For more than 150 years, Red Cross volunteers have given up their time to help others in crisis - and today we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice

ne hundred years ago, just a month before the 11 November Armistice signalled the end of the First World War, some grim news reached the shores of Ireland. On 10 October 1918, the RMS *Leinster*, carrying civilians and troops from Dublin to Holyhead, was struck by a German torpedo. It sank, taking with it more than 500 of its 771 passengers and crew, including five dedicated Red Cross nurses. It was the largest single loss of life in the Irish Sea in history.

Although Red Cross personnel died in this tragic event, others continued to support survivors, just as they had throughout the war. This power of kindness goes on today, right around the world. Whenever an emergency strikes – be it an earthquake in Nepal, a flood in Cumbria or someone with no family unable to get home from hospital, the British Red Cross is there to provide support and help pick up the pieces.

None of this is possible without your help. Only through the generosity of supporters can the British Red Cross help those in crisis. By leaving a gift in your will, you can leave your own legacy and ensure this vital charity continues to transform the lives of people in crisis long into the future.





Remembering the Red Cross nurses who gave their lives on the RMS *Leinster* 

Alice Barry (Co Limerick)
Violet Barrett (Co Dublin)
Margaret Dillon (Co Cork)
Dorothy Jones (London)
Sheila Plunkett (Co Dublin)

Historical photos and information supplied by the National Maritime Museum of Ireland

To find out more about supporting the British Red Cross with a gift in your will and for information about the Free Will scheme, call 0300 500 0401 or visit redcross.org.uk/freewill

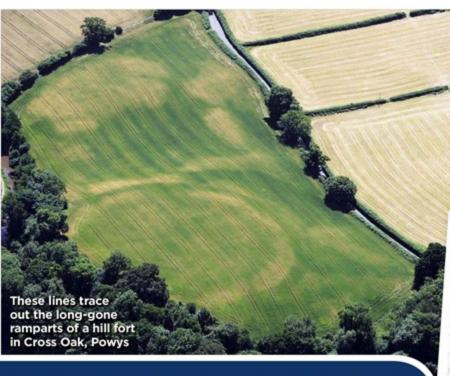






Giving you a fresh perspective on the events and findings from history

# **HISTORY** IN THE NEWS



# HEATWAVE UNCOVERS LOST SETTLEMENTS

As Britain basked in the sunshine, fragments of the landscape's ancient past were revealed by the heat

he recent heatwave in Britain led to the discovery of ancient settlements across Wales. Late June and early July saw prolonged hot weather across Britain and, as fields dried out, crop marks appeared, visible only from above. They mark out long-lost archeological sites that no-one knew existed.

Ancient settlements had fortification and drainage ditches built around them, but these would have been filled in once the settlement disappeared. However, the soil in them would be deeper than the soil around it, and

able to hold onto more nutrients and moisture.

During a heatwave, crops growing on these ditches have more water to draw – keeping them verdant whilst plants nearby wither. It is this that's behind the crop lines.

As well as settlements, burial sites and waterways were also observed across Wales.

"So much new archaeology is showing, it is incredible," says Toby Driver, aerial archaeologist at the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. "The urgent work in the air now will lead to months of research in the

Deep ditches have more soil, so crops have more nutrients to live on during dry spells

office ... to map and record all the sites which have been seen, and reveal their true significance."

Louise Barker, serial investigator at the Royal Commission, adds: "There's obviously the new discoveries, but also new information on known upstanding monuments and other crop/parch-mark sites that haven't been seen for many years and in some cases decades."

# SIX OF THE BEST..

Unusual royal deaths. Try not to laugh (no, really)...p14



# YOUR HISTORY

Bernard Cornwell, the man behind Sharpe...p17



# YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

The Space Shuttle Challenger disaster...p18



# **THIS MONTH IN...** 1928

Fleming discovers the first antibiotic...p20



# TIME CAPSULE: 1893

New Zealand gives women the vote...p22



# **DNA MAY IDENTIFY THE PRINCES IN THE TOWER**

One of history's most enduring mysteries could finally be solved

eneticists have acquired a DNA sample that could prove whether the purported remains of the Princes in the Tower belong to the two lost sons of Edward IV. But there's a catch: in all likelihood, Westminster Abbey, where the bones are laid to rest, won't let scientists perform any kind of analysis.

The DNA belongs to English opera singer Elizabeth Roberts, who has been identified as being a direct descendant of the princes' maternal grandmother, Jacquetta of Luxembourg.

The two princes - Edward V and Richard of Shrewsbury - were the only sons of Edward IV. After their father's death in 1483, they were housed in the Tower of London to await the elder prince's coronation, under the protection of their uncle Richard, Duke of Gloucester.

Richard took the crown for himself and the boys disappeared. Many now assume they were murdered, with Richard one of the main suspects, largely due to Shakespeare's treatment of him in his play Richard III.



years later. Previous attempts to date and identify the bones have been denied by the Church, as there are concerns this would set a precedent for testing other royal interments.

Some historians doubt whether these bones are those of the princes, as the only research carried out on them was before the time of DNA testing and radiocarbon dating. A positive test would bolster the theory that Richard III

the princes were still 'lost'.

Other remains said to be of the princes can be found elsewhere, including in London's Dutch Church, where the pretender Perkin Warbeck who claimed to be Prince Richard – is buried. If testing was allowed on those remains, a positive match could put Richard III in the clear, as it would prove that at least one of the princes died long after Richard himself.

# SIX OF THE BEST... **UNUSUAL ROYAL DEATHS**

'Best' might be pushing it in our pick of the most unregal demises



### **LOUIS III OF FRANCE** (AD 882)

The King of West Francia was a bit of a ladies man. This would be his downfall. As he rushed to chase a woman, he hit his head on a door while mounting his horse, fracturing his skull.



# 2 (AD 892) SIGURD EYSTEINSSON

This Viking conqueror was killed by a dead man. He scratched his leg on the teeth of a severed head he had planned to keep as a trophy, and the graze became fatally infected.



### 3 MARTII (1410) MARTIN OF ARAGON

Martin excused himself after eating due to ingestion. Summoning his favourite court jester to cheer him up, he laughed uncontrollably for hours before dying.



### JAMES II OF 4 SCOTLAND (1460)

Known as 'Fiery Face' due to a red birthmark, James had a suitably blazing death. He was killed when one of his cannon exploded during the siege of Roxburgh Castle.



### **GEORGE, DUKE OF** CLARENCE (1478)

Disillusioned with the rule of his brother, Edward IV, George betrayed him one time too many. Rumours spread that he was executed by being drowned in a vat of malmsey wine.



### **ALEXANDER OF GREECE (1920)**

While trying to break up a fight between his dog and a domestic monkey, Alexander was bitten by a wild primate. The wound wasn't thought to be serious, but sepsis soon set in.

# **TIME PIECE**

A look at everyday objects from the past

# A HEAD ON A PLATTER

It's not made of silver, but this Incan plate bearing a duck's visage may have been a religious rarity

ometimes, what you eat your food off can be just as important as what you eat. The Incas certainly seemed to think so. This ceramic plate, featuring a handle shaped like a bird's head, was found in the Temple of the Sun at Pachacamac in Peru. It is thought to have been made in the early 16th century. Birds were important in Inca culture as they were believed to be able to move between the realms (pachas) of the living and the dead. Images of frogs also cover this plate – they were a popular delicacy in some parts of the Inca Empire.



IN THE NEWS

# **EUROPEAN RAIDS RECOVER STOLEN ARTEFACTS**

Thousands of stolen relics from Italy have been seized by police

joint operation by European police forces has recovered a huge haul of archaeological artefacts illegally removed from Italy.

A number of raids were carried out across Italy, Spain, Germany and the UK. More than 25,000 items of archaeological interest were recovered, and they have a combined value estimated to be more than £35 million. The operation was the result of a four-year investigation into a criminal group that had been trafficking stolen goods from the country – it's believed to be one of the biggest cases in Italian history.

According to the Metropolitan Police, a 64-year-old man from Greater London has been detained and three items of Roman origin have been found. Callum Jones, media and communications officer at the Metropolitan Police, says that work is ongoing to determine exactly where the items are from.

RECOVERED

Busts of unidentified Romans were among the objects seized by police



# **HISTORY** IN COLOUR

Colourised photographs that bring the past to life

See more colourised pictures by Marina Amaral 100 marinamaral2

# **WINSTON CHURCHILL, 1940**

Prime Minister Winston Churchill surveys the devastation in Battersea, London, after a spree of Luftwaffe raids. Between September 1940 and May 1941, London endured 71 bombing raids – a period known as the Blitz. Other cities were also hit, with 43,000 civilians killed and millions of homes destroyed during those eight months.



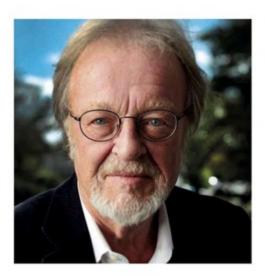


# **YOUR HISTORY**

# **Bernard Cornwell**

The author who created *Sharpe* and the *Last Kingdom* names the battlefield he'd most like to visit and explains why his unsung heroes have nothing to do with war







War of the Wolf, the latest novel in the Last Kingdom series starring Saxon-turned-Viking Uhtred, is published on 20 September.

# If you could turn back the clock, which single event in history would you want to change?

This one's fairly easy. I'd go to Braunau am Inn, in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, sometime in the autumn of 1888 and arrange that Klara Hitler had an abortion. She was a strict Roman Catholic and, by all accounts, a devoted mother, so some fierce persuasion would be required.

# If you could meet any figure from history, who would it be?

Much more difficult to answer. The first Duke of Wellington springs to mind, but he detested authors and was never very forthcoming with men, so the cost of a time machine would probably be wasted on me. I'd certainly like to meet William Shakespeare, but suspect I'm not enough of an expert to ask him the questions that myriad scholars would want answered (send

Stephen Greenblatt instead of me). I'll settle for Nell Gwynn, Charles II's mistress; she was lovely, witty, sparkling, friendly and, best of all, a theatre gossip.

# If you could visit any historical landmark in the world tomorrow, where would you go?

Dien Bien Phu in Vietnam. I've always wanted to visit, and regard the 1954 battle there as one of the crucial ones of the 20th century because it sounded the death-knell for European colonialism. It was also hell on Earth for both sides. I've had the privilege of meeting some of the French survivors and I am in awe of what they, and their opponents, endured.

# Who is your unsung history hero?

Can I have two, please? Henry Condell and John Heminges, both of whom were sharers (partners) in The Lord Chamberlain's Men, later called The King's Men. It was William Shakespeare's company. Both Condell and Heminges were actors, and we owe them an incalculable debt because, in 1623, seven years after Shakespeare's death, they published the First Folio containing 36 of Shakespeare's plays, half of which had never been printed before. Thus they saved, amongst others, Macbeth, The Tempest, As You Like It and Twelfth Night.



"The first Duke of Wellington detested authors"





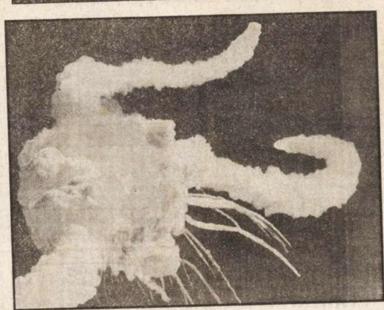
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# SPACESHIP SPACESHIP DISASTER



Pioneer: Christa McAuliffe on way to the launch

Teacher dies
living the
American dream



IT was the moment that stunned the world: The American Space Shuttle Challenger explodes 75 seconds after lift-off, killing all seven astronauts on board. One of them was 37year-old Christa McAuliffe, a schoolteacher from New Hampshire, chosen as the first 'ordinary citizen' to go into space. As America mourned, President Reagan, 'deeply concerned and shocked', postponed his annual State of the Union address, due last night. Instead, he broadcast to the nation on the disaster.

The horror - Pages 2, 3, 4 and 5

INSIDE: Weather 2, Lynda Lee-Potter 7, Femail 12, Diary 15, TV 26, 27, Casino Royale 30, Letters 32, Technology '86 34, 35, Sport 35-40

# YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

Another timeless front page from the archives

# FINAL COUNTDOWN

The crew are all smiles ahead of launch. It's thought that they survived the spaceplane's disintegration, perishing only when their capsule hit the ocean

# SEVEN DIE ON SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER

The disaster reignited interest in the space programme, but not in the way NASA hoped

Shuttle Challenger launched from Cape Canaveral in Florida, a fireball ripped it apart. All seven astronauts lost their lives in the disaster, watched by millions live on television.

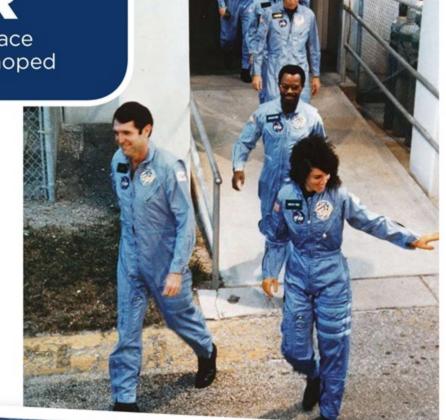
The mission, Challenger's tenth, had been mired in controversy before lift-off. Delays caused by another mission, technical issues and bad weather had united to push the launch date back several days to 28 January 1986. That morning, with temperatures below freezing, ice coated the launch pad. Calls to postpone were ignored, and Challenger's thrusters fired at 11.38am.

On board were commander Francis Scobee, pilot Michael Smith, mission specialists Ellison Onizuka, Judith Resnik and Ronald McNair, payload specialist Gregory Jarvis and, in a first, a teacher. Christa McAuliffe, who taught social studies at a New Hampshire high school, had won a national 'Teacher in Space' competition, seeing off 11,000 applicants, for her spot in the crew. Interest in McAuliffe's story meant that children in classrooms all over the country watched the launch, excitement turning to horror as the Shuttle went up in smoke.

A failure with a joint seal called an O-ring caused a leak in one of the boosters, resulting in the fire that sparked *Challenger's* disintegration. The boosters flew off in different directions and debris, including the intact crew cabin, plummeted into the Atlantic. It took weeks to salvage the wreckage, and the bodies. The last thing recorded by the flight deck tape recorder was Smith saying "Uh-oh".

The ensuing presidential commission was damning of NASA. The rubber O-rings had long been problematic and had not been tested in freezing conditions, but flaws in NASA's decision making were also blamed. The space agency, the report concluded, had pushed too hard.

The same day as the disaster, US President Ronald Reagan spoke to the nation, having cancelled the planned State of the Union address. "We will never forget them," he said of the Challenger crew, "nor the last time we saw them, this morning, as they prepared for their journey and waved goodbye and slipped the surly bonds of Earth to touch the face of God." •





# THIS MONTH IN... 1928

Anniversaries that have made history

# FLEMING FINDS THE FIRST ANTIBIOTIC

Sometimes, the most amazing advances are made by accident. That's exactly what happened to scientist Alexander Fleming

ntil the mid-20th century, certain diseases - ones that today can be treated with a short course of antibiotics - were often a death sentence. Doctor Alexander Fleming had seen that first hand: as a captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps during World War I, he had watched on, helpless, as countless men succumbed to infected wounds and sepsis.

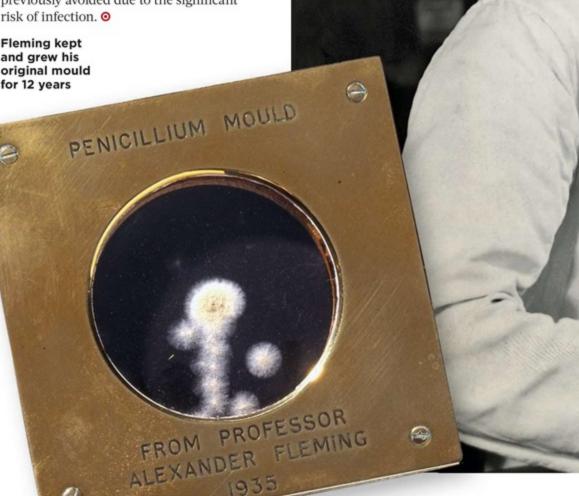
After the war, Fleming began researching bacteriology and antibacterial substances at St Mary's Hospital in London. In the late 1920s, he began to focus on a group of bacteria known as Staphylococci. He was famously untidy, and one day in August 1928, while rushing off for a family holiday, he simply left his bacteria cultures stacked on a bench. On his return in September, he found a mould growing in one of his samples, and it was destroying the bacteria.

Further investigations revealed that the mould produced a substance that killed the bacteria responsible for scarlet fever, diphtheria, pneumonia and meningitis. Fleming named it 'mould juice' first, before settling on penicillin, as the mould that produced it was of the genus Penicillium. He continued to experiment throughout the 1930s, but found that penicillin was difficult to create and he couldn't find a chemist skilled enough to refine it into a usable drug.

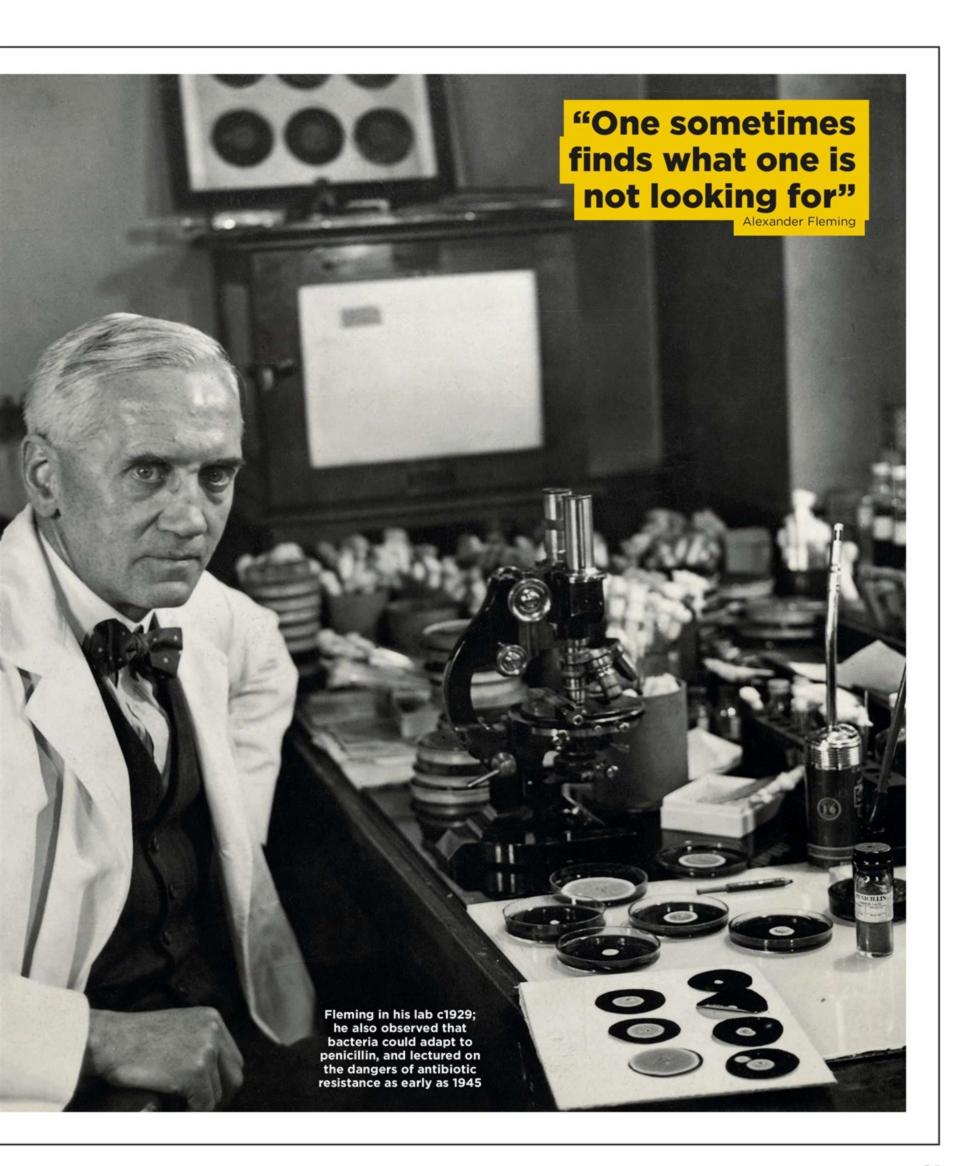
Fleming abandoned penicillin in 1940; by this time, Howard Florey and Ernst Boris Chain from the University of Oxford had begun to research it, and they succeeded in mass-producing it soon after. In 1945, Fleming, Florey and Chain shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery and development of penicillin, and by the end of the 1940s, more than 250,000 patients a month were being prescribed the antibiotic for a range of infections.

Fleming's find and the drug's subsequent development remain defining moments in 20th-century medical history. Before penicillin, pneumonia and post-operative infections killed one in three of those who contracted them. It also allowed doctors to perform more-invasive treatments, previously avoided due to the significant risk of infection. 0

Fleming kept and grew his original mould



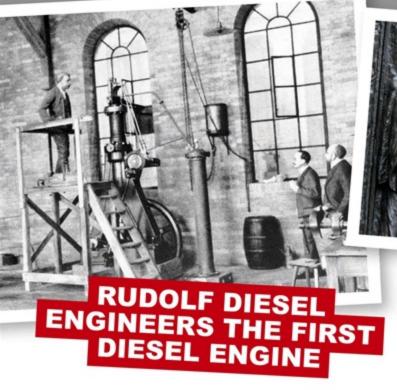
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# TIME CAPSULE 1893

Snapshots of the world from one year in the past





In the 19th century, the steam engine ran the world. However, it was extremely inefficient, only converting around 10 per cent of its heat into energy. French-born German engineer Rudolf Diesel would change that with his internal combustion engine, which worked by compressing air. On 10 August 1893, Diesel tested his prototype for the first time: the petrol exploded in the piston, but the engine stayed intact. Four years later, it was running correctly and took the world by storm. By 1939, a quarter of all global sea trade was powered by his engines.

# ACTORS ARE FIRST SEEN PERFORMING ON FILM

On 9 May, the *Blacksmith Scene* was shown at the Brooklyn Institute in New York. This black-and-white silent film, made by the Edison Manufacturing Company, was considered a marvel, being the first kinetoscope film exhibited in public. The kinetoscope was a device through which

film could be watched via a peephole viewer. The scene was also the first instance of actors performing a role on film. It lasted for 34 seconds, and showed three men hammering a metal rod at an anvil and then stopping for a drink break.



On 19 September 1893, after three years of petitioning led by English-born suffragette Kate Sheppard, royal assent was granted to the Electoral Bill, giving all women over 21 in New Zealand the right to vote. This made New Zealand the first self-governing country in the world where women had the right to vote in parliamentary elections – Britain and the US wouldn't follow suit until after World War I. However, it wasn't until 1919 that women in New Zealand could stand for election.



# ALSO IN 1893...

### 10 MARCH

The Ivory Coast becomes a French colony during the Scramble for Africa, in which the European nations competed to colonise the continent.

### 31 MAY

Two of England's most famous football clubs join the Football League, entering in the Second Division - Woolwich Arsenal (now Arsenal) and Liverpool. Both would be instrumental in forming the Premier League in 1992.

### 7 JUNE

Gandhi carries out his first act of civil disobedience in South Africa by refusing to move out of a first-class train carriage.

### 21 JUNE

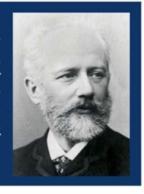
At the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, George Washington Gale Ferris Jr wowed crowds with the first Ferris wheel. It was 80 metres high.

### 10 AUGUST

Preston, Lancashire, enters the UK weather record books with the highest amount of rainfall in five minutes, when 32mm fell. The current average for the whole of August is 69mm.

# DIED: 6 NOVEMBER PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY

Tchaikovsky was composer of some of the most popular classical works of the Romantic period, including the ballet *The Sleeping Beauty*. His death remains mysterious: the official cause was cholera but rumours of suicide, due to the stigma of his homosexuality, later surfaced.



# BORN: 18 MARCH WILFRED OWEN

Owen chronicled his experiences of World War I through poems such as *Dulce et Decorum est*, challenging the media's portrayal of the war and giving horrifyingly real accounts of life on the front. He was killed in action one week before the Armistice in 1918.

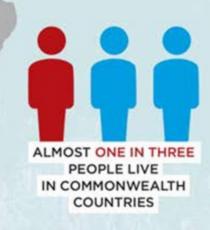


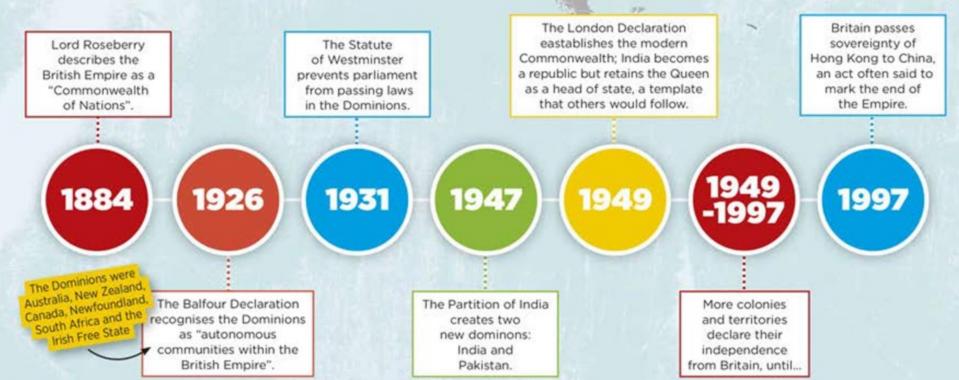


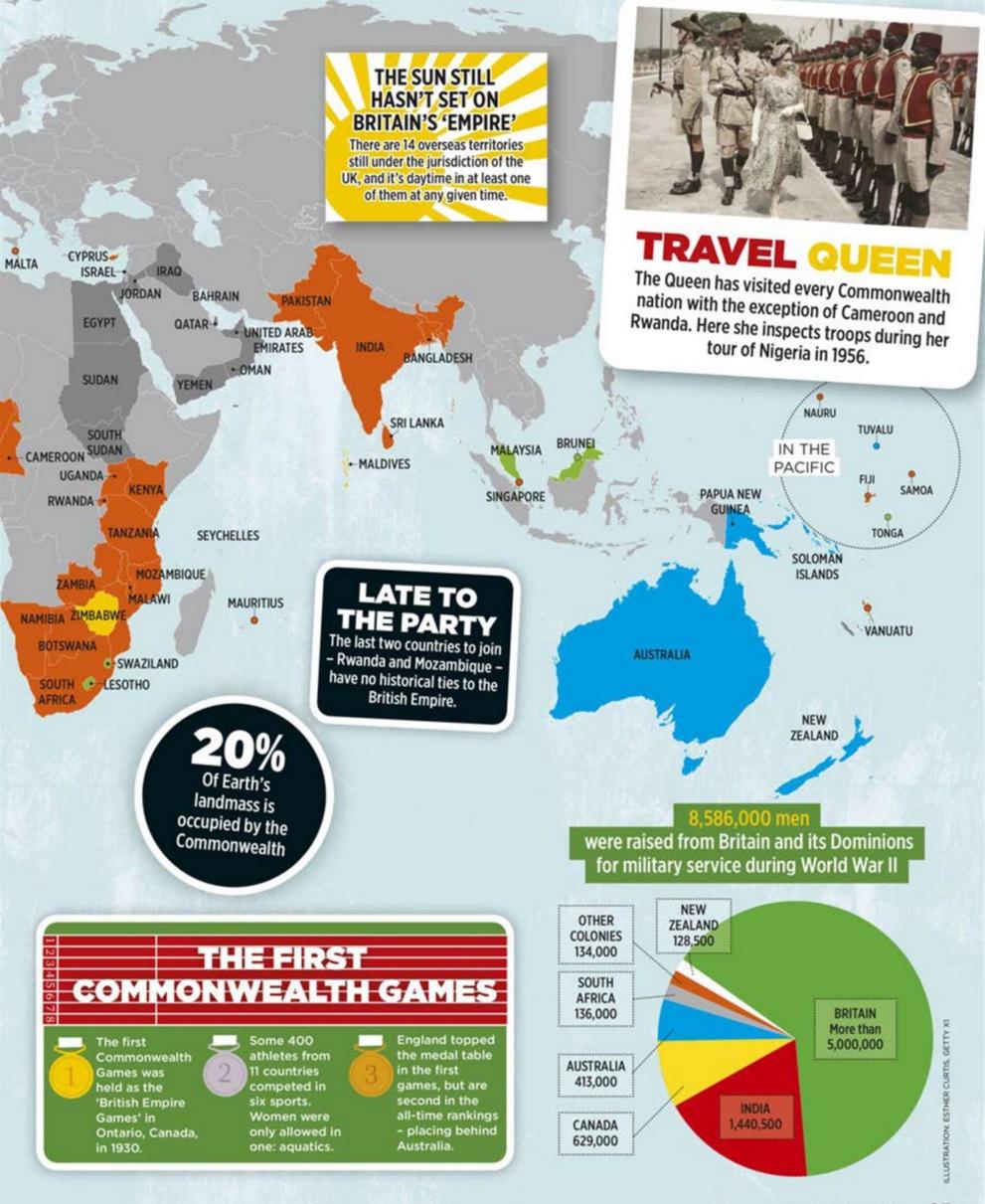
# **GRAPHIC HISTORY**

# EMPIRE BECOMES COMMONWEALTH

The decline of the British Empire saw the birth of a new global partnership - the Commonwealth









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# EMPIRES AT WAR ROLL TO TO

# GREECE

Macedon was the pre-eminent power in Ancient Greece, Rome an upstart republic on the ascendant. **Ben Kane** recalls the ultimate showdown between two of the earliest superpowers

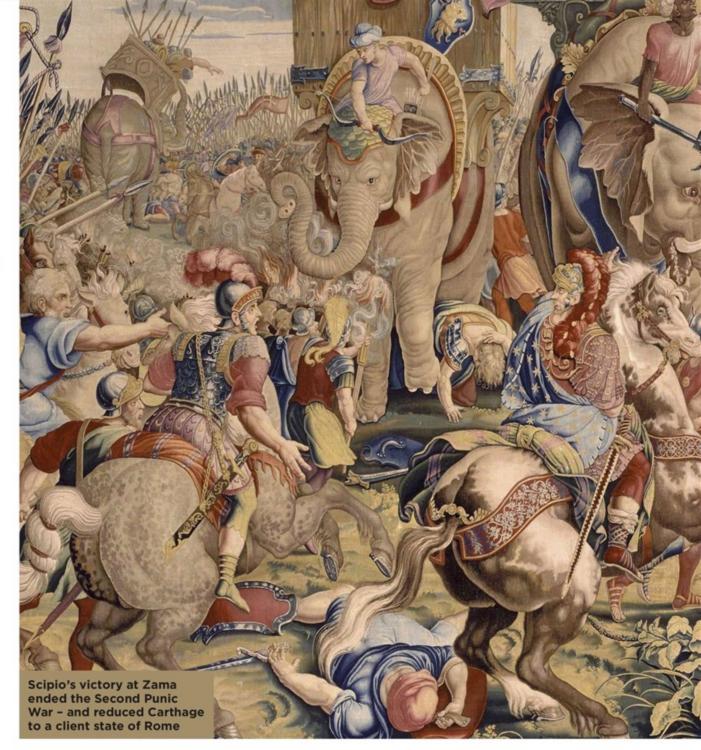
Macedon had lost some of its lustre since the days of Alexander the Great, but it still wielded considerable power. Could it stand up to a flourishing Rome?

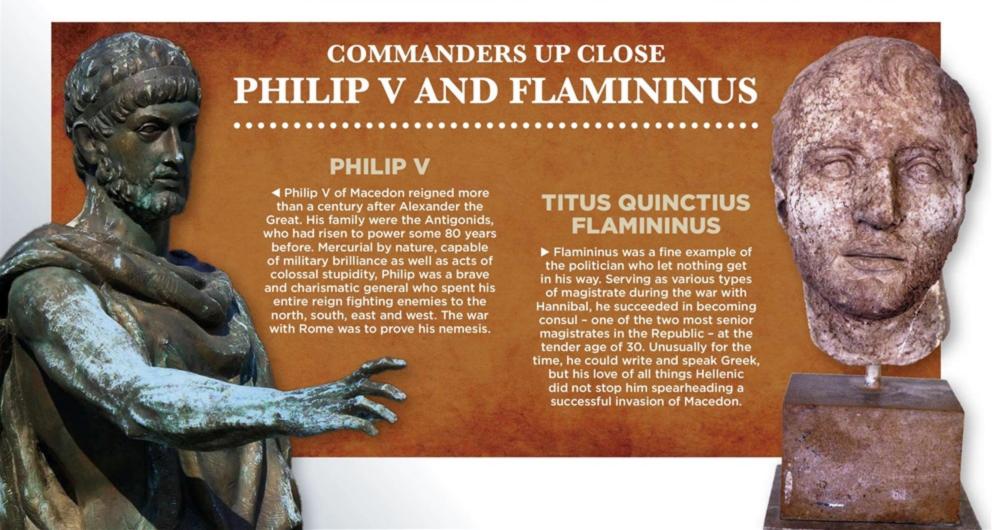


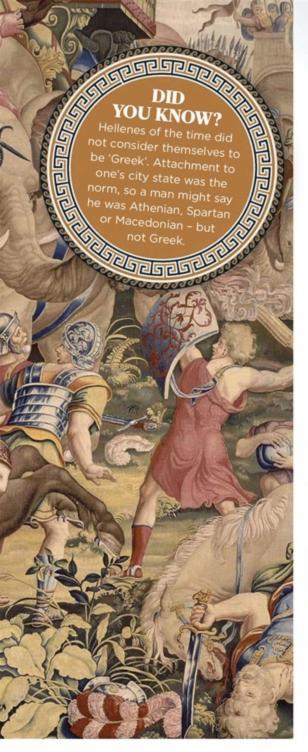
retty much everyone knows something about Ancient Rome, whether it's Julius Caesar or gladiators, legions invading Britain or the majesty of the Colosseum. The same can be said of Ancient Greece, from the Olympic Games to the Battle of Thermopylae, and literary treasures such as the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. Given our relative familiarity with these two civilisations, it's odd that the pivotal moment in their combined history – when the Roman Republic invaded Greece – is almost unknown today.

Before launching into the details of that three-year war, it's useful to lay out the political landscape of the Mediterranean at that time. When the Second Punic War started in 218 BC, the Roman Republic was one of the smallest of five major powers around the Mediterranean. Half a century later, the situation had changed beyond recognition. Just two factions remained: weak and unstable Ptolemaic Egypt, and the ascendant Roman Republic.

Remarkably, the three that had fallen away – Carthage, Macedon and the Seleucid Empire – had all been beaten by Rome in war. In a mere 50 years, the Republic had morphed from a regional power with few territories into one that utterly dominated the Mediterranean world. This seismic change set Rome on the road to becoming an empire, a self-fulfilling path from which there was no turning back.







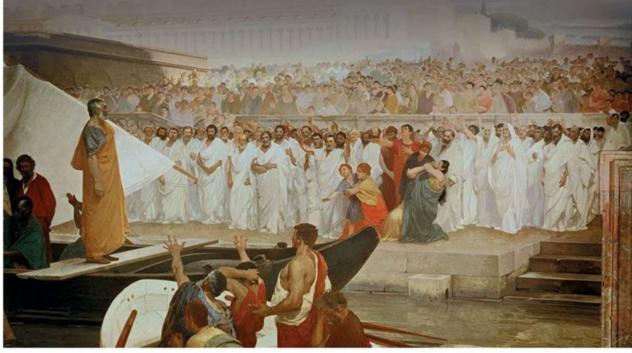
# THE RISE OF THE REPUBLIC

Born from the overthrow of the Roman kings in the late sixth century BC, the Republic was a democracy, albeit for landed citizens only. It was led by the Senate, a body of 300 senators, and a group of magistrates elected from within their own number. The two most senior magistrates were called consuls; serving for 12 months, their job was to lead the Republic in matters civil and military.

Until the fourth century BC, the Roman Republic was small and confined to west-central Italy. During a series of wars with its neighbours - including the Etruscans, Samnites and Latins - it gradually expanded,

but by the time of the first war with the mighty power that was Carthage (264-241 BC), the Republic did not even control the entire Italian peninsula. By the end of the Second Punic War, however, a triumphant Rome was well on its way to becoming a superpower, annexing Sicily, Corsica and Sardinia. Just two years later, it opened hostilities with Macedon.

The man on the boat is a consul, captured by Carthage and paroled to negotiate peace during the First Punic War. After the Senate rejects peace, he returns to Carthage to deliver the news - and is tortured to death



The Republic's war with Carthage lasted for 17 bitter years, from 218 BC to 201 BC. It was a conflict initiated by the Carthaginian military genius Hannibal Barca. Invading Italy by crossing the Alps in winter, he inflicted crushing defeats on the Romans at the Trebbia. Lake Trasimene and Cannae. Yet Hannibal never succeeded in forcing his enemies to surrender. Obdurate and resilient, Rome recruited new legions to replace those that had been annihilated, and fought on. It was a long, drawn-out war that spanned four fronts: mainland Italy, Sicily, Spain and, lastly, Carthage, in what is now Tunisia.

### **OLD GRUDGES DIE HARD**

One might think that the Romans would have had enough of war once victory over Hannibal and Carthage had been secured. Far from it. Less than two years after the decisive Battle of Zama, the Republic opened hostilities with King Philip V of Macedon. This wasn't a conflict that had come from nowhere,

# "Philip and Hannibal had come together in secret alliance against Rome"

however: the Romans and Philip had history with one another.

In 215 BC, the year after the Battle of Cannae, the chance interception of a ship off the southern coast of Italy had brought to light a most unwelcome revelation. Documents seized by the Roman navy proved that Philip and Hannibal had come together in secret alliance against the Republic. The Senate immediately sent a fleet to the east, its

task to contain the Macedonian King. Events in Illyria soon took on a life of their own, and in 214 BC, war broke out between Rome and Macedon.

The conflict lingered on until 205 BC, a stop-start affair that played out all around the Greek coastline. Macedon fought alone, while the Romans had allies throughout the region. There were sieges, lightning-fast raids and withdrawals, victories and defeats on both sides. When peace was finally negotiated, the Republic's war with Hannibal was nearing its final act - it suited the Romans to end the conflict with Macedon. Aetolia, Rome's chief Greek ally, had had enough too. Philip, on the other hand, had reason to be content, having lost none of his territories and gained part of Illyria.

In the five years that followed, Hannibal was defeated by Scipio at Zama, while Philip busied himself campaigning on the coast of Asia Minor, where he had some successes against Rhodes, the Kingdom of Pergamum and others. For  every achievement, however, it seemed Philip suffered a setback. He besieged but failed to take the city of Pergamum, and in a naval battle at Chios he lost a large part of his fleet, as well as thousands of sailors and soldiers. The most humiliating incident was the six months in the winter of 201-200 BC that Philip spent barricaded in a bay in western Turkey by a Pergamene and Rhodian fleet. Finally escaping by night, slipping past the ships of his enemies, he made his way back to Macedon.

Whatever other misjudgements Philip had made, he had been astute enough to avoid conflict with the powerful Seleucid Empire, which controlled most of modern-day Turkey and sprawled eastwards into the Middle East, Afghanistan and India. He also entered into a secret agreement with the Seleucid ruler, Antiochus III, that allowed both powers to attack settlements belonging to Ptolemaic Egypt.

### **ROME'S REVENGE**

Philip's actions in Asia Minor were to have major repercussions. In the autumn of 201 BC, Rhodes and Pergamum both sent embassies to Rome pleading for aid against him. Despite having rebuffed Aetolian emissaries asking for the same help only a few years before, this time the Senate listened – but its first motion for war was rejected by the Centuriate, the people's assembly.

DID
YOU KNOW?

The Macedonian cavalry
of the time - the famed
Companions - was not
quite the strike force it had
been under Alexander.
Nonetheless, it remained
a lethal part of
philip's army.

It is no surprise that the very people who had bled and died in vast numbers during the struggle against Hannibal were reluctant to pick up their swords and shields again so soon, but their resistance was short-lived. Politicians have always been prone to ignoring decisions made by plebiscite, and after six months

 and in all likelihood, after some significant back-room politicking – the Centuriate reversed its decision.

It was late in the summer of 200 BC before an army was dispatched to Illyria. The chosen commander was Publius Sulpicius Galba, an experienced politician and leader who had served in various positions during the war with Hannibal, including that of consul. Setting up base near the city of Apollonia by September, Galba sent a legion up one of the several mountain

valleys that led to Macedon. After a short siege, the town of Antipatreia was taken and sacked. Prudently deciding to end his year's campaign before winter arrived, Galba consolidated his position in Apollonia and waited for the spring.

Philip did the same in Macedon, but as soon as the weather began to improve in early 199 BC, he marched his army west from his capital of Pella. It was difficult to know which route Galba would use to invade; history doesn't record whether Philip had scouts watching every valley, but it would have made sense to do so.

In the event, Galba chose the Apsus Valley. Philip rushed to defend it, but Rome's legions smashed past his phalanx and into western Macedon. Although the defeat was incomplete – Philip's army escaped almost entirely – this was a pivotal moment in the war, when the extraordinarily manoeuvrable Roman maniple proved itself superior to the rigidly structured phalanx.

Galba's army marched eastward in search of Philip's host, and a game of cat and mouse ensued through the summer, with each side seeking battle on its own terms. A victory for the Romans at Ottolobus, when Philip almost lost his life recklessly leading his Companion Cavalry against the enemy, was countered by a Macedonian win at Pluinna. Sadly, the locations of both Ottolobus and Pluinna have been lost to history.

The harvest of 199 BC arrived without a conclusive outcome. Galba, far from his base of Apollonia, with his supply lines at risk of being cut by snow or the

"His actions in Asia Minor were to have major repercussions"



The heyday of the Macedonian phalanx arrived during the conquests of Alexander the Great, who carved out one of the greatest empires the world has ever seen, stretching from Greece to India

# **MACEDON AND ITS NEIGHBOURS IN 202BC**

Under Philip II and his son Alexander the Great, Macedon rose to a position of pre-eminence never equalled by any Greek city state before or after. By the late third century BC, the kingdom had seen better days. That said, although it was much reduced in size, it remained the dominant military power in Greece and continued to exert huge influence over the region. Naturally, this made it unpopular. Macedon ruled the central region of Thessaly, and through three well-situated fortresses (Chalcis, Demetrias and the Acrocorinth, the so-called 'Fetters of Greece') exerted military control over the area around Athens, as well as on the Peloponnese peninsula. Macedon also ruled part of the coastline of Asia Minor, as well as some of the islands in the Aegean Sea.

The rest of Greece remained divided into city states, small powers ruled by their own citizens. It's important to stress here that there was almost no sense of 'Greekness' at this time. People identified themselves by the place they lived in, and were often at odds with those from other towns or city states. Powers such as Athens and Sparta, which had ruled supreme centuries before, were but shadows of their former selves. Thebes no longer existed, having been crushed by Alexander, and Corinth lay under Macedonian control. Aetolia, in west-central



Macedonians, took the sensible option and retreated to the Illyrian coast.

### THE NEW COMMANDER

In many ways, the politics of 2,000 years ago were no different to today: the new man always likes to take control. Although it was common in the mid-Republic for a general to be left in command of the war he was prosecuting, Galba found himself supplanted by the current consul, Villius, soon after his return to Apollonia. Villius in turn was replaced only a few months later, in early 198 BC, by the brand-new consul, Titus Quinctius Flamininus. Thirty years old – a young age to be in command of a

large army – he was a formidable figure who took the invasion in his stride. A lover of all things Hellenic, he could speak and write Greek, something unusual for Romans of the time.

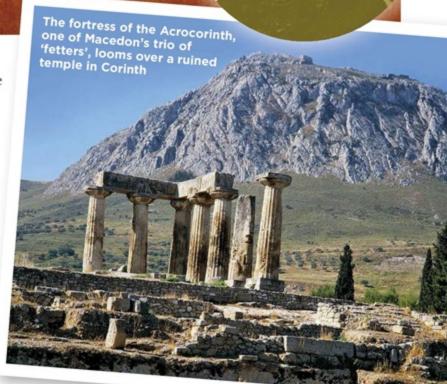
on the Peloponnese, tiny

being allied to Macedon.

Acarnania in southwest Greece,

and Boeotia, the latter two both

Flamininus decided to try a different valley to Galba, that of the River Aous. He found his path blocked by Philip's phalanx and an impressive series of defences, leading to a 40-day stand-off during which the Romans must have mounted many unsuccessful attacks. A dramatic meeting between Flamininus and Philip took place during this time, across the Aous. The Roman historian Livy records that Flamininus demanded Philip



# PHALANX VS LEGION

What's the difference between the distinctive formations of the Macedonian and Roman armies?



# ROMAN LEGION

On paper, each legion of the mid-Republic comprised 4,500 men, of which 300 were young noblemen serving as cavalry. The 4,200 foot soldiers were split into four classes according to age and wealth: 1,200 velites, or skirmishers, and 3,000 legionaries, subdivided into 1,200 hastati, 1,200 principes and 600 triarii. The basic unit of the legion was the maniple (a double century). It was 160-men strong, a mix of skirmishers and legionaries. The legion was a more fluid fighting formation than the phalanx, which was to be Philip's undoing.

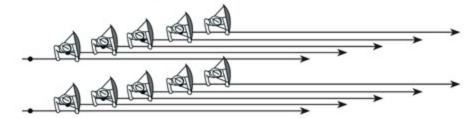
ROME VS GREECE

80 IN 100
In Rome's early history, a century was a unit of 100 men, but by the time of the raising of a spear vertically as a signal to surrender. The Romans didn't know this, and at Cynoscephalae killed large

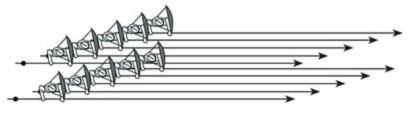
### NO WAY THROUGH

Staggered spear tips stopped foes from easily knocking the shafts aside

# Close order formation



# Locked shield formation





'Slingers' were used by many ancient peoples, including the Romans and Macedonians. It was commonplace to carve insults on sling bullets: examples that have been found include "Ouch", "Take this", "An unpleasant gift", and much worse.

The legionary's gladius hispaniensis (Spanish sword) was lethal. Ancient sources mention that Philip's soldiers were terrified of the ease with which it removed limbs.



In the late third century BC, it was regarded as unseemly for a Roman magistrate to put his profile on a coin, as it showed aspirations toward kingship. Flamininus did so after his victory over Philip, which makes his confidence – or arrogance – quite remarkable.

Flamininus and Philip

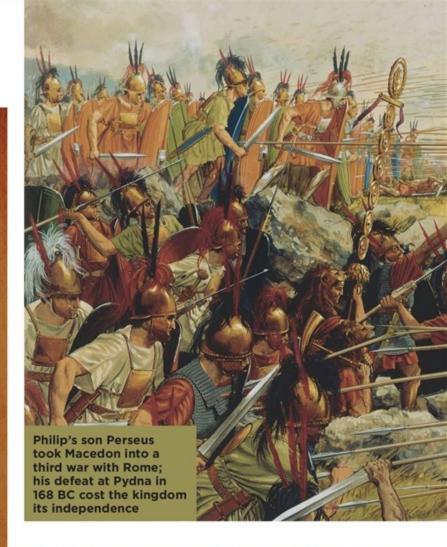
met several times
met several times
during the war. On one
occasion, on the coast
near Thermopylae, Philip
refused to come ashore,
preferring to speak to
Flamininus from the deck
of his ship.



During this time, it was the civic duty of all male Roman citizens aged 16-46 to present themselves for military duty every spring.



Greeks and Macedonians had been quarrelling since before the time of Alexander the Great's father, Philip II. The famous Athenian orator Demosthenes decried that he was "but a pestilent knave from Macedonia, whence it was never yet possible to buy a decent slave".



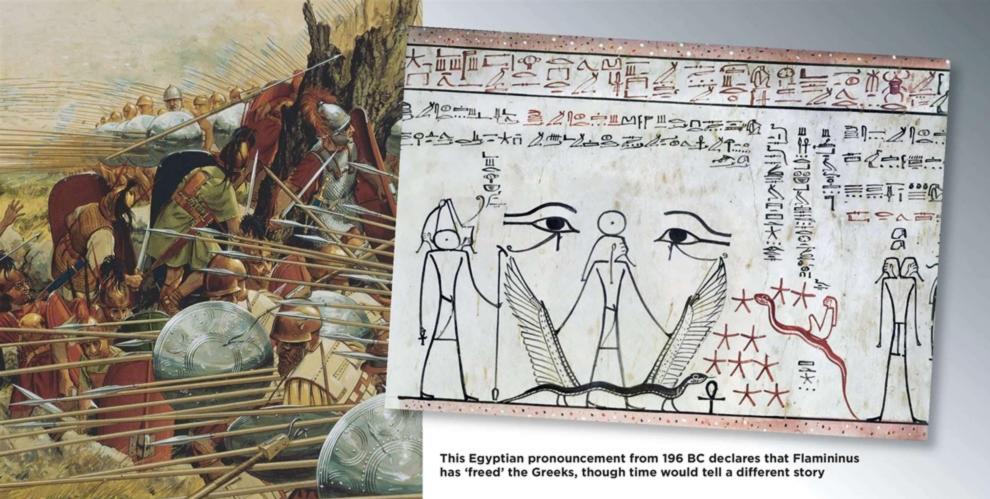
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"Philip had to torch his own farmland to deny supplies to the enemy"

remove his garrisons from all Greek towns and pay reparations to those whose lands he had ravaged: Athens, Pergamum and Rhodes. Unpalatable though these demands were – being issued to a Hellenic king on his own territory by a non-Greek invader – Philip conceded. Unsurprisingly, he balked at Flamininus' next demand, that he should surrender the towns of Thessaly to their own populations, reversing a legacy of Macedonian control of more than 150 years.

The impasse resumed, but soon after a local guide was found to lead a Roman force up and around the Macedonian positions. Attacked from in front and behind, Philip's army broke and fled; it was thanks only to the phalanx that a complete slaughter was prevented. Pursued eastward, Philip had to abandon the same Thessaly he had refused to deliver to Flamininus only days before. It was a humiliating moment for the Macedonian King, all the more so as he had to torch his own farmland and towns to deny supplies to the enemy.

Defeat seemed imminent, but redemption was to come from an unexpected quarter. Despite the loss of the strategically important fortress of Gomphi, Philip's forces proved victorious at another stronghold, Atrax. When the Roman catapults battered a hole in the wall and the legionaries charged in, they were faced by the phalanx in a tightly confined space. The sources are silent on details, but what



happened there persuaded Flamininus to retreat from Thessaly.

Fine September weather meant that the year's campaign did not come to an end at the usual time. Flamininus's considerable successes saw the Greek city states, many of which had been playing neutral, move towards the Roman camp - or in the case of Aetolia and Achaea, join it outright. Several towns in Boeotia fell to the legions, and the mighty fortress of the Acrocorinth was besieged by a combined force of Romans, Pergamenes and Achaeans. This attack failed, but it signalled the end of Philip's ability to retain territories outside Macedon. The future looked bleak.

#### **CRISIS OF CONFERENCE**

In likely recognition of this, Philip agreed to a conference with Flamininus and his allies in November 198 BC. It also suited the wily Flamininus to negotiate, because in Rome, consular elections were around the corner. If he was to be replaced (as he had done to Villius) then a peace treaty with Philip was the best option; if his command was renewed, on the other hand, Flamininus could fight Macedon to a finish.

Three days of heated negotiations without agreement saw Philip request to send an embassy to Rome; he would abide, he said, by the decision of the Senate. Flamininus agreed, knowing full well that once there, Philip would be asked to surrender the three fortresses that protected Macedon to the south

the so-called 'Fetters of Greece',
 Acrocorinth, Chalcis and Demetrias.
 And so it proved. Flamininus' command was renewed, and Philip's outwitted ambassadors could not agree to the Senate's demand to evacuate the Fetters.
 Both parties retired for the winter.

In spring 197 BC, the war resumed. Rather than in mountain valleys, this year the fighting would take place in Thessaly. By May, both armies were marching towards each other on the coast. Taking account of his allies, Flamininus had about 26,000 men; Philip's troops were of similar strength, including 16,000 phalangists.

Skirmishes and manoeuvring saw both parties march westward, separated by a range of hills. As is often the case with battles of vital importance, the fighting began by accident when Flamininus's scouts clashed with Philip's advance force in bad weather, atop the hills of Cynoscephalae. Reinforcements were sent by both sides as the skirmish spiralled out of control and, before long, both commanders had deployed their armies.

#### THE PHALANX FALTERS

Unhappy with the ground and lacking half of his phalanx (which was out scouting), Philip went to battle reluctantly. At first, things went well, with his phalangists driving the Roman left flank down the hillside towards their own camp. Victory might have seemed possible, but things changed fast when Flamininus led his right flank up towards the second half of Philip's phalanx, which had arrived late to the battle. Panicked by the

Romans' elephants, these disorganised phalangists broke and ran.

Misfortune then turned into disaster for Philip when a quick-thinking Roman officer broke away from Flamininus' position with several thousand legionaries and attacked the exposed flank and rear of the remaining half of the phalanx. Unable to defend themselves, the phalangists were slain in large numbers; the rest fled the field.

The defeat did not see Philip removed from his throne by Flamininus. Rome was well aware of the threat posed by the wild peoples to the north of Macedon and the Seleucid Empire to its east. Philip could serve nicely as a buffer, while also paying reparations and sending one of his sons to Rome as a hostage.

Effectively, Cynoscephalae signalled the end of Macedonian and Greek independence. The city states that had allied themselves to the Republic would realise this too late, and just a year later, in 196 BC, the Aetolians lamented how the Romans had unshackled the feet of the Greeks only to put a collar around their necks. •

#### **GET HOOKED**

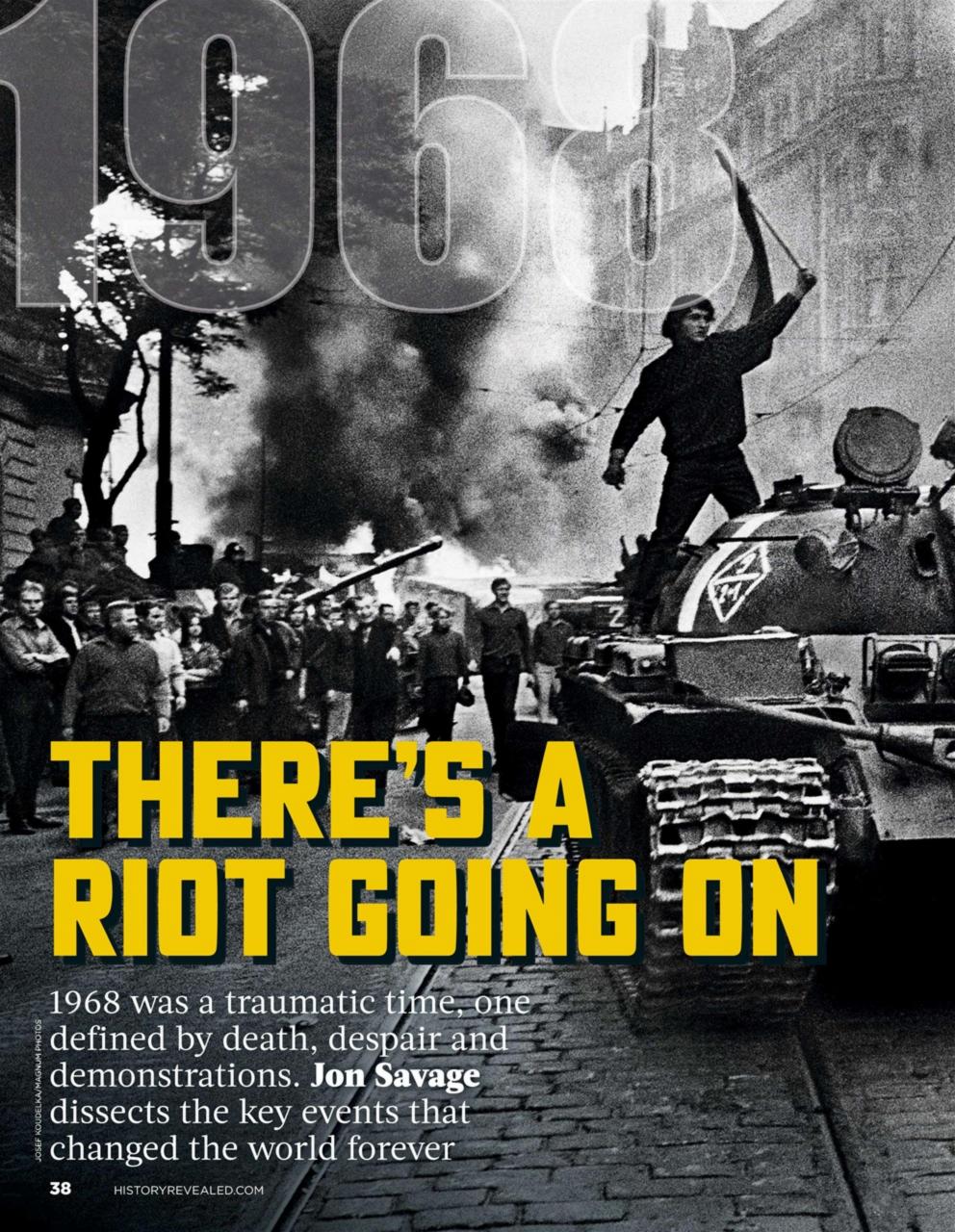


#### READ

Ben Kane's latest historical-fiction novel is A Clash of Empires (Orion, 2018). It's set during the Roman invasion of Macedon and is available in hardback now.



Was Macedon the greatest of the Greek city states – or does that title belong to another? Email: editor@historyrevealed.com





he high-resolution colour footage intercuts two marches: one of protestors, bearing slogans like "Bring the GIs home now" and chanting "Hell no, we won't go"; the other of serried Chicago police ranks. Blank uniforms against a rag-tag army. They are bound to collide, and they meet on South Michigan Avenue, just to the west of Grant Park, where the police have been attempting to clear a demonstration by extreme force. The National Guard appears, followed by a Jeep. As national TV cameras rush past, the crowd chants, "The whole world is watching."

It's a bright summer day and the United States is igniting. Film director Haskell Wexler is shooting a feature - to be released the following year as Medium Cool - as a parable about the nature of mass media and its voveurism. As an experienced cameraman, his nose for a story has brought him into the heart of the madness of this traumatic year. Inside the Democratic National Convention at Chicago's International Amphitheatre, the mood is hot and raucous; on the streets, about a mile away, tensions are boiling over into random, vicious state violence. A police riot, no less.

Wexler captured both locations in his invaluable record of this key event in 20th-century American history, in what was already a dread year in the US. North Vietnam's Tet Offensive of January 1968 was a serious reversal

TEARGASIN A Chicago protester confronts the National Guard with an ode to police brutality during the Grant Park rally

of Washington's military self-image. The assassinations of Martin Luther King in April and Robert Kennedy in June tipped the nation into a spasm of violence. The brutal, ruthless suppression of student dissent in Chicago during that late August

reported and televised, like these other

"THESE DEEP

**DIVISIONS WERE** 

**NOT CONFINED** 

events, to a national audience - showed a country at war with its youth.

#### WORLD OF HURT

These deep divisions were not confined to the US. As one of the youths caught by Wexler's camera on South Michigan Avenue shouts, "Don't forget Budapest!" It was the year when youthful activism prompted demonstrations and riots across the Western world. There was the Grosvenor Square riot in London in March; the Prague Spring, in which young Czechoslovakians attempted to overthrow Soviet rule; the événements in Paris during May that nearly brought down the government; the tragic





GETTY X1, PHILIP JONES GRIFFITHS/MAGNUM PHOTOS X1, RAYMOND DEPARDON/MAGNUM

flashpoint in Mexico City's Tlatelolco district in which students and civilians were gunned down by police and the military.

Combined, these events document an extraordinary, nearly simultaneous uprising that year. There were many factors involved. The continuing Vietnam War had given young activists a focus for their agitation, and as the war deepened and worsened without any end in sight, their anger become more extreme. The success of the brutal Vietcong insurgency of January 1968 marked a new low in US public approval of the war, with President Lyndon B Johnson's ratings plunging to 35 per cent.

Beyond that, there was a general sense that the artistic and consumerist freedoms of 1960s youth had to mean something more: that the world could be made anew. In this sense, the young of the West were extrapolating from the purchasing and cultural power of the post-war baby boom as they passed through their later adolescence. By 1967 and 1968, a fast-moving, sophisticated and content-laden popular culture reflected and shaped their concerns at the same time as it disseminated avant-garde and subversive ideas into the mass marketplace.

Radicalism was confined to a small, but highly vocal and influential section of the young – the counterculture – and the wind was in their sails. Their upsurge coincided with a major push back: in the US, the Civil Rights Movement was stalling amidst infighting between radical groups, such as the Black Panthers and the Black Power



# MOMENTS OF REFLECTION

The most striking images of 1968 are rife with anger, discontent and pain – and then, at the last gasp, give us something to hope for

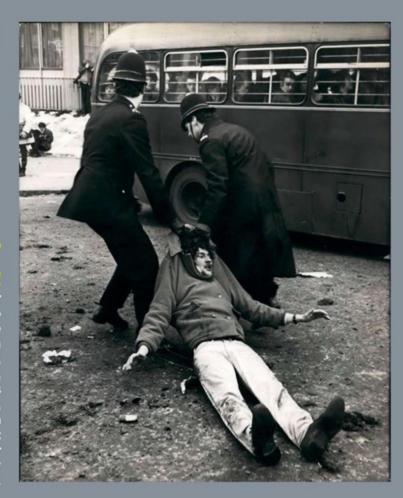


### PUBLIC EXECUTION

A man in military uniform approaches some guards and their prisoner in a Saigon street. He waves the guards away, holds up a pistol and shoots: the smaller man collapses, blood pouring out of his head. This was the execution of Nguyen Van Lem, a Viet Cong insurgent, by South Vietnam's chief of police on 1 February. It remains one of the most disturbing photographs from a year full of graphic and conflicting images.

#### VIOLENT DISORDER

▶ An anti-war protestor is dragged away by two London policemen at the Grosvenor Square riot on 17 March. The square, home to the US Embassy, turns into a warzone as thousands of protesters, led by the actor Vanessa Redgrave and student leader Tariq Ali, voice their discontent with US military action in Vietnam.



Movement, and the non-violent aims of the figurehead of civil rights, Martin Luther King. Although seen by some as an establishment figure, King had strongly criticised the Vietnam War in an April 1967 speech.

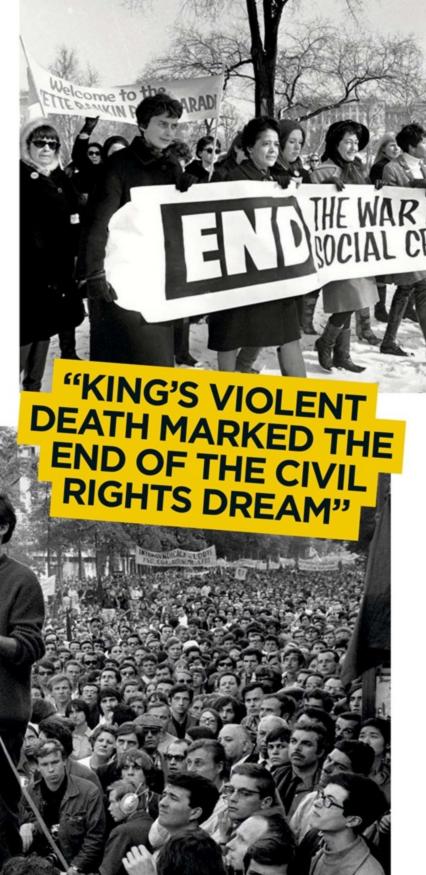
There was also a sense among the authorities that these youth freedoms had gone too far. In 1966, Ronald Reagan was elected Governor of California, in what *Time* magazine called "the Republican resurgence". His ticket included promises to crack down on drugs and youth protest, in particular on the activists at the University of California, Berkeley. Authorities in the UK and the US began to target the more obvious proponents of the soft drug culture, most notably The Rolling Stones, whose court case became a cause célèbre in the summer of 1967.

#### ON THE MARCH

The first major anti-Vietnam action of 1968 was the Jeannette Rankin Brigade protest in mid-January, when 5,000 women rallied in Washington to call for soldiers to be withdrawn. On 16 March, Robert Kennedy announced that he was entering the race for the US Presidency on an anti-war ticket. The next day, a 10,000-strong anti-war rally in London's Grosvenor Square resulted in a major riot, with around 90 people injured and more than 200 arrested. The Rolling Stones' Mick Jagger was present, and turned the event into a powerful song – Street Fighting Man.

On 4 April, Martin Luther King was assassinated by a lone gunman in Memphis. Within days, there were riots in cities across the US – including Washington, Baltimore and Chicago. His violent death marked the end of the civil rights dream, and gave credence to the more aggressive, autonomous programmes of the Black Panthers and the Black Power Movement. It also indicated a country beginning to spiral out of control. This sense that the US was being consumed by violence would escalate during the following months.

In France, the dissatisfaction of a newly expanded student cohort reached its apex in May. The disturbances had begun small, with the occupation of a Paris Nanterre University building by around 150 students in late March.



Demonstrations in Paris continued into June, even after President Charles de Gaulle neutered the revolution by promising an election

January saw a pro-peace

women's march on Washington

led by Jeanette Rankin - the suffragist who became the first

woman elected to Congress

# V VIETN AND CIS AME!

When they took their complaints to the Sorbonne in the heart of Paris on 1 May, the authorities promptly shut the university down. Things escalated quickly, from a 6,000-strong protest on 6 May to a major and violent confrontation, the aftermath of which was shown on national television, four days later.

It remained a student matter until 13 May, when France's major unions called for a one-day shutdown. The next day, workers began occupying factories across the country: by the 23rd, ten million workers were on strike. While the De Gaulle government retreated and considered its options late in that month, the événements reached their peak, with a huge march through Paris led by the unions, attracting an estimated 400,000-500,000 protestors.

Événements – meaning events – was the right word for these disturbances, as there was an element of a happening within their origins and in the graffiti that covered the French capital during that month. Phrases included "Sous les paves, la plage" (Beneath the paving stones, the beach), "Ne travaillez jamais" (Never work) and "Soyez realistes, demandez l'impossible" (Be realistic, ask for the impossible).

Detectable in this absurdist poetry was the hand of an organisation called Situationist International, which had

# MOMENTS OF REFLECTION



#### **FATAL SHOT**

▲ In the early evening of 4 April, on a balcony at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, the entourage of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr point in the direction that they think shots have been fired from. King lies prone at their feet, the victim of the gunman. After unsuccessful emergency surgery, he is pronounced dead little more than an hour later.

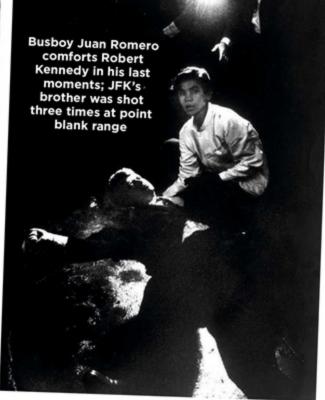
#### **TAKING SIDES**

▼ Amidst the tear gas, a policeman shelters himself from a protester's projectile. It's 7 May, and the battle lines have been drawn in central Paris. What starts out as a localised student protest quickly mushrooms into a movement that shakes France to its very core.



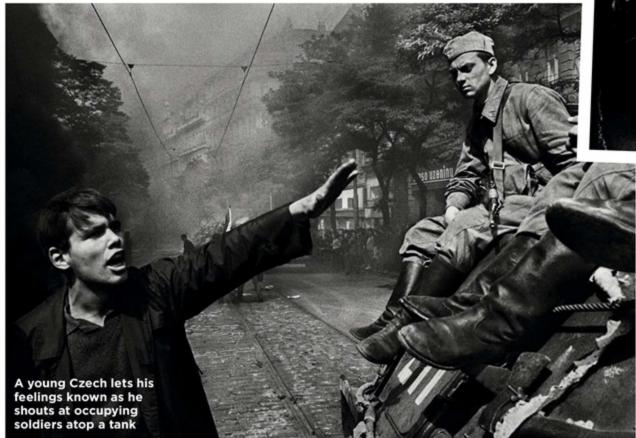


West Berlin police wade through thousands of copies of the newspaper *Bild-Zeitung*, stolen and dumped on the street by student activists



nurtured student unrest in Strasbourg and Nanterre through pamphlets with inflammatory titles, such as On The Poverty of Student Life.

Playful, violent and successful, the Paris riots inspired students in the UK, leading to sit-ins at art schools in Hornsey, Brighton and Guildford, and the formation of the Revolutionary Socialist Student Federation at the London School of Economics. In West Germany, students protested against the tabloid press, in particular the Bild-Zeitung newspaper, following the attempted assassination of student leader Rudi Dutschke – an act that



KOUDELKA/MAGNUM PHOTOS X1, GETTY X2, PAUL FUSCO/MAGNUM PHOTOS X1, REX/SHUTTERSTOCK X1

# MOMENTS OF REFLECTION

many regarded the paper to be partially culpable for. Around 400 students were injured and two killed in a series of stand-offs with the police.

#### SLIPPING THE LEASH

During those months, students and writers in Czechoslovakia fostered what was later called the Prague Spring. What they were protesting about was not the Vietnam War, but the Russian domination of their country.

They centred their protests on the figure of President Antonin Novotný. A series of student demonstrations followed in the autumn of 1967, leading to Alexander Dubček replacing Novotný as First Secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in January 1968. Dubček promptly starting making reforms, most notably the abolition of state censorship in June 1968.

In April, he launched the Action
Programme, a plan to bring the country
into line with European democracies.
Critiques of the Soviet regime were
openly discussed in the country's media
by workers, intellectuals and students.
Literature became part of this move
towards freedom, epitomised by the
popularity of the uncensored, former
hardline communist weekly, Literární
listy. Even more than in Paris, the
possibility of freedom swept the country.

While Czechoslovakia seemed to have liberty within its grasp, the US was rocked by another assassination, this time of presidential candidate Robert F Kennedy in Los Angeles on 5 June. Kennedy had made strong overtures towards black Americans and the youth, as well as pitching himself on that antiwar ticket. Three days previously, Andy Warhol had been shot in New York. As the news came through of Kennedy's shooting, the US's most famous artist was in hospital hovering between life and death. The violence seemed to be never ending.

On 20 August, the unthinkable happened as Soviet tanks rolled into Czechoslovakia. Infuriated by the Dubček regime, Soviet Premier Leonid Brezhnev sent in 200,000 troops and instigated a violent coup, which resulted in weeks of skirmishes between the Russian occupiers and Czechoslovakians who had tasted freedom. Full 'normalisation' - which included state censorship and the resumption of Soviet control - was returned by March the following year. By then, at least 72 Czechoslovakians had died and up to 300,000 others had fled the country.



#### A NATION MOURNS..

▲ On 8 June, mute and sorrowful crowds line the railway tracks between New York City and Washington as a slow-moving train takes the body of presidential candidate Robert F Kennedy to its final burial place. He was assassinated at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles three days earlier.

## SHOW OF

▶ At the medal presentation following the men's 200m final at the Mexico Olympic Games in October, two medallists - the black American sprinters Tommie Smith (gold) and John Carlos (bronze) - lift their gloved fists in the Black Power salute. It was a graphic symbol of resistance and defiance that caused outrage and led to death threats back home.



One week later, the Democratic
National Convention opened in
Chicago. Warned of probable youth
demonstrations – most notably the
Festival of Life, promoted by the Youth
International Party (aka the Yippies),
a radical organisation formed by
Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin –
Mayor Richard Daley announced an
11pm curfew. Over the next few days,
counterculture youth groups attempted
to hold anti-Vietnam protests, which
escalated into violence in the face of
heavy-handed policing.

#### **OLYMPIC OUTCRY**

The cycle of protest and repression extended to Mexico. During August, students held a series of protests against the Partido Revoluncionario Institucional regime in Mexico, complaining about government interference in universities and the inordinate amount of money – estimated at \$150 million – being spent on the upcoming Olympic Games. As the protests grew bigger and bigger, the students' demands escalated to include the repeal of draconian laws concerning public meetings and freedom for political prisoners.

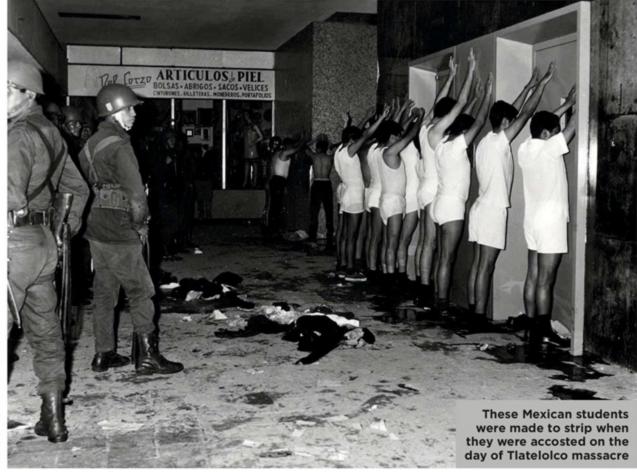
They also forged links with workers and trade unions, suppressed under the regime. This breaking down of barriers was similar to that which had occurred in Paris and Prague, but was brutally suppressed in early October. Around

# MOMENTS OF REFLECTION



#### BRAVE NEW WORLD

A hopeful, and effortlessly potent, image from the end of the year. On Christmas Eve, astronaut William Anders snatches a photograph from the Apollo 8 capsule as it orbits the Moon. Faraway Earth looks at once beautiful and fragile. This was one of the first photographs of our planet from space, and has been credited with advancing global consciousness and leading to the rise of the environmental movement.



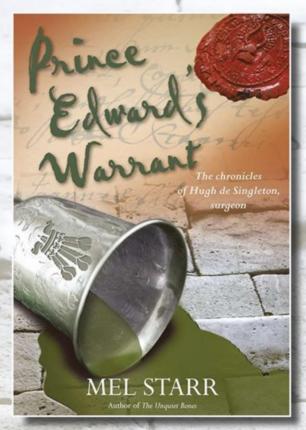
10,000 people, mostly young, had congregated in the Plaza de las Tres Culturas in the Tlatelolco neighbourhood of Mexico City. As they chanted "We don't want Olympics, we want revolution", they were fired upon by the police and the army. An estimated 200-300 people were killed, and thousands arrested; the details are still contested today.

As a year, 1968 remains a totem: a warning for the conservatives – if not reactionaries – who found the 1960s alarming and disturbing, and an inspiration for those who continue to hold out for a positive transformation of society. Its spirit is best located in a few songs – the various versions of *Revolution* by The Beatles, for instance – and in the allusive, poetic slogans from Paris in May that year. As the graffiti ran, "Prenez vos desires pour la réalité" – take your desires for reality. •

#### 

Has there been a worse year in the post-war era than uncertain and tumultuous 1968? Email: editor@historyrevealed.com





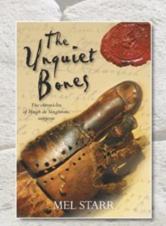
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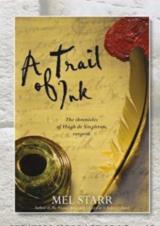
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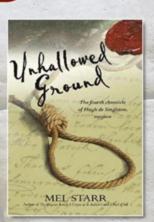
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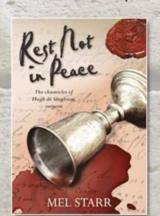
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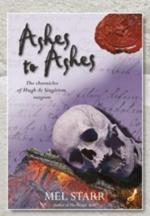
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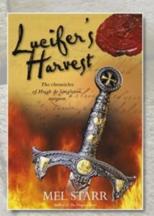
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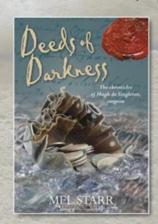
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Thomas More's duties to God and Crown were set against each other when Henry VIII decided to break away from the Catholic Church. Whatever the Lord Chancellor did next, says **Joanne Paul**, it could only end badly

n the cold Sunday morning of 17 February 1516, scholar and lawyer Thomas More sat down in his London home to pen a letter to his friend Erasmus. Five miles down the Thames, at Greenwich, Queen Catherine of Aragon was in labour. More, along with the whole country, would soon be devoting prayers to the safe delivery of a son to secure the Tudor dynasty. But in the few minutes he had dedicated to himself and his work, he had other matters on his mind.

He had recently returned from a diplomatic mission on behalf of Henry VIII. The mission, More told Erasmus, had been long, expensive and professionally futile, although it had been personally productive. While away, he had found the time to begin work on the book that would become his masterpiece, *Utopia*. He had penned the pages about the ideal island but, upon returning to life in England, had found it difficult to finish his work. There was also another distraction: he had been offered a pension from the King.

Not for the first or last time in his life, More was torn between competing loyalties. He spilled his angst onto the page before him. If he took the offered money, he would lose the respect of the people of London, who would see him, one of the city's two undersheriffs, as a traitor. He did not want to end up in the even more difficult position of having to arbitrate between his city and his liege. For that reason, he wrote, he did not think he would accept Henry's offer. He would remain as he was: a dedicated citizen, a family man and a scholar.

Within two years, More was a fully paid member of the King's Council, working alongside Henry VIII himself. The cause of his change of heart is difficult to determine. It might have been ambition, or perhaps a sense of betrayal when London citizens violently turned against his authority during the xenophobic May Day riot of 1517. Either way, when he accepted the position, More knew the sort of murky and dangerous world he was entering. In such a court, he would find his priorities tested and tried, over and over again. It was these moments, when More had to choose, that define him



and his legacy, and reveal to us his where his heart truly lay.

One such moment came in autumn 1527 at Hampton Court, the residence of the then Lord Chancellor, Cardinal Wolsey. More had just returned, once again, from a diplomatic mission, accompanying Wolsey to France. Supposedly, the mission was to strengthen ties in the hopes of freeing the Pope from Spanish control. Secretly, however, Wolsey had a different task: seeking guidance on Henry's 'Great Matter'.

Catherine of Aragon delivered a healthy child in February 1516, but it was a daughter, Mary. No living sons had followed, and now that Catherine was past the age of 40, none were likely to. In the meantime, Henry – a tall, attractive man in his 30s – had fallen for a younger woman, Anne Boleyn, who had promised him heirs. Normally, casting off an unwanted and infertile queen would not be a problem; a few words from the Pope and the matter would be solved. Henry had married his brother's widow, so it would be easy enough for the Church to use this as a reason to set Henry

free. But the Pope was under the control of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, who was Catherine of Aragon's nephew, and so was not inclined to grant Henry his divorce. The King found himself in a difficult position. He wanted to be the patriarch of a large family, as was More.

#### **HEIRS AND GRACES**

By 1527, More was approaching 50 and a grandfather. In the same year, Renaissance artist Hans Holbein produced

#### "Henry wished to be the patriarch of a large family, as was More"

a brilliant portrait of More's large family, including his wife, four children and various wards. More had repeatedly demonstrated his love and affection for them, even educating his daughters alongside his son, so that they too had reputations as learned scholars across Europe.

Henry VIII dismisses

Wolsey, paving the way for More's ascension.

The cardinal would soon

be accused of treason

More had a duty to protect and care for this growing family. As far as he was concerned, he also had a duty to speak truth to those in power. If he had any objections to the King's attempts to obtain a divorce, no matter what happened to More or his family, he ought to tell him. And so one day, as he walked with Henry in the gallery of Hampton Court, More communicated his disapproval to the King.

He risked his life in doing so. Henry, however, did not react with anger. Instead, when Wolsey failed to attain the divorce Henry wanted, More was given Wolsey's position of Lord Chancellor, but without the expectation that he seek out the means to resolve the Great Matter. That charge was primarily given to two new men of the court: Thomas Cranmer and Thomas Cromwell. More was predominantly tasked with continuing the fight against Lutheran heresy in England, overseeing the first burnings of prosecuted heretics in the capital.

More was unequivocal in his belief that unrepentant heretics - those who turned against the long-established teachings of the Catholic Church, and thus against the laws of the kingdom as well - needed to be punished in this way. Despite rumours to the contrary, there is no evidence that More himself tortured the accused, but he boldly proclaimed his willingness to punish any who contravened the laws of his country and Church. In this there was no conflict. More's loyalties were perfectly aligned, as long as the King served the Pope, and the Pope served God.

#### A COUP AGAINST GOD

More bids adieu to one

of his daughters as he

is taken to the Tower

It cannot have come as anything but the ultimate betrayal when, in early 1532, Henry made his desire to usurp the Pope's position of Head of the Church in England absolutely clear. While More had been hunting down heretical texts in the homes of the London

citizens he had once defended, Henry had been swayed by many of the arguments contained in their pages. The King was not a Lutheran, but he was becoming increasingly convinced that the Pope had no right to govern English souls, including his own.

The day after the clergy submitted to Henry's authority, More met the King for the final time. Bowing before him, he offered up the Royal Seal, the sign of his office, and formally resigned his position.

More returned home, but did not let his pen rest. He continued to write against Lutheran heresies, and his words inevitably critiqued the King's policy as well. On 1 June 1533, Henry's new pregnant wife, Anne Boleyn, was crowned in a lavish ceremony at Westminster Abbey. More did not attend.

It was not long after that they came for him. First he was accused of taking

Heretics' burned

while More was

chancellor. At least 50

others met the same fate

in the 15 years between

his death and that

of Henry VIII

bribes, then of giving counsel to a nun who claimed that Henry had harmed his soul by divorcing Catherine, but in both cases the charges came to nothing. He was accosted for what would be the final time on 12 April 1534.

According to a later biography, More was walking from the old St

Paul's Cathedral after Mass, when he was approached by a messenger. He had been summoned to swear to the Act of Succession, which recognised Anne and her children as heirs to the throne, and enshrined Henry as head of the Church of England. More was dragged before a panel of commissioners,

including both Cromwell and

Cranmer, and for days they tried and failed to persuade him to sign. On 17 April, he was taken to the Tower of London.

Deep in the Tower, More reflected on his fate, and on the nature of suffering. Cromwell and his commissioners reminded him that his duty was to his King and that countless others had sworn. His family, too, pleaded with him, trying to convince him that God would not mind what he promised, as long as he believed the right thing in his heart and soul. Thundering around him was the demand that he sign; all it would take would be a few strokes of his prolific pen and he would go free.

More refused. He remained in regular correspondence with his family, especially his daughter Margaret, staying silent even to her about his deepest feelings. When she visited him, he reassured her that without their love,



#### **MYTHS ABOUT MORE**

#### Falsehoods held as fact

#### HE WAS FROM A PRIVILEGED RURAL BACKGROUND

More was born in Cheapside, London, to a middling lawyer. Because of his father's connections and his own intelligence, he did spend his youth serving the Lord Chancellor at Lambeth Palace, but his roots were far more humble.

#### HE TORTURED PROTESTANTS IN HIS OWN GARDEN

▼ There is no evidence for this and it would have been extremely unusual for the time. This myth is contemporary to More, who addresses it in one of his books. He denied that he had ever done such a thing, though he did reassert his commitment to punishing anyone who posed a danger to the Church or the country.



#### HE OPPOSED THE BIBLE'S TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH

▼ More did object to the translation produced by William Tyndale, because it had Lutheran undertones, but he was in

favour of an
English Bible
- as long as it
was approved
by the Catholic
Church.

Tyndale's New Testament was published in 1526, by which time he was already being hunted as a heretic



#### HE DIED IN DEFENCE OF THE POPE

More thought that a 'whip' like Martin Luther was needed to correct the corruptions of the papacy, and did not believe that the Pope was supreme or infallible. Instead, it was the Vatican's General Council – representing the Church as a whole – that he saw as rightfully the head of the Church.



# FAMILY MAN

More's surviving letters tell us how important his family was to him, and he was especially keen to ensure his children were well educated and looked after. This family portrait, painted by Rowland Lockey c1593, is a copy of an earlier Hans Holbein portrait from the 1520s that was lost in the 18th century

#### 1. MARGARET GIGGS

Margaret's mother had been the wet nurse to Thomas and Jane More's eldest daughter, who was also called Margaret (but known as Meg). When her mother died, the Mores adopted Margaret, and she and Meg grew up as sisters and became best friends.

#### 2. ELIZABETH MORE

The Mores' second daughter. She married William Daunce, who held positions in the Exchequer and Parliament. They had seven children.

#### 3. SIR JOHN MORE

Thomas More's father. As a London lawyer and judge, it was his footsteps in which Thomas would follow. The son of a baker, Sir John's rise to prominence was very much achieved on merit.

#### 4. ANNE CRESACRE

Anne was only an infant when she was brought into the Mores' household. At the time of this portrait, she was the fiancée of Thomas's son John, and married him around the age of 17.

#### **5. SIR THOMAS MORE**

Aside from his many professional duties, More was a dutiful, diligent family man. In this, he was someone that Henry VIII aspired to be.

#### **6. JOHN MORE**

As his only son, John was Thomas's heir, though he was also the only one of his children who seemed to disappoint intellectually, being far outshone by his sisters. He had eight children with Anne Cresacre.

#### 7. HENRY PATTERSON

Named on the portrait as 'Henricus Pattison', Patterson was the Mores' 'fool', an entertainer whose job it was to offer light relief to the heavy nature of his employer's work.

#### 8. MYSTERY MAN

The most credible identity of this figure is John Harris, Thomas's secretary. This conjecture is based on him being named as 'Johannes' on the painting, as well as him being shown carrying some paperwork.

#### 9. CECILY MORE

The youngest More daughter, Cecily married Giles Heron, who was one of several wards in the family's care.

The couple had three children before Giles, like his father-in-law, was executed for treason.

#### 10. MARGARET (MEG) MORE

The family's eldest daughter, Meg married William Roper in 1521 at the age of 16. She – along with her sisters – was highly educated and had an international reputation as a scholar. She and William had five children.

#### 11. LADY ALICE MORE

Thomas married Alice Middleton, his second wife, less than a month after Jane's death. Some have attributed this to an inordinate lust; it is far more likely that he needed help looking after his four young children.



he would have felt himself a prisoner long before he had found himself in the Tower, and it comforted him still.

#### **DEVIL IN THE DETAIL**

Margaret was not his only visitor. On 12 June 1535, the solicitor-general, Sir Richard Rich, visited him, also pressing him on why he would not sign. Recognising a fellow lawyer, Rich put a hypothetical case to him: "If it were enacted by Parliament that I should be king...", would More still object? More replied that he would not, and responded with his own: what if Parliament said "that God were not God"? Rich quickly responded that Parliament had no such power, but it did surely have the power to make a king.

More agreed, but added further that such a king only had jurisdiction in England; the decision of who was God had a wider purview. Rich exited the Tower and hurriedly scribbled down this conversation, as he'd been tasked to do, before delivering it to Cromwell. He probably did not understand the importance of what had been said; Cromwell, however, knew that the note Rich had handed him had the power to kill.

Under three weeks later, More was called to trial. Skilled as ever, the London lawyer quickly dispensed with the first three charges laid against him, but the final
one – that he had
maliciously denied the
King's supremacy and thus
committed treason – stuck.
It did so because of Rich's
testimony. More had denied
that Henry, via Parliament,
had the ability to declare
himself head of the Church. They
had him. He was convicted of
treason and condemned to die a

# "Cromwell knew that the note he held had the power to kill a man"

with her

traitor's death: "to be drawn on a hurdle ... to be hanged till you be half dead, after that cut down yet alive, your bowels to be taken out of your body and burned before you, your privy parts cut off, your head cut off, your body to be divided into four parts, and your head and body to be set at such places as the King shall assign".

More had the opportunity to embrace his family one last time before he was executed. Shortly after 9am on 6 July 1535, a week after his trial, More was taken from his cell to the scaffold erected on Tower Hill. His words to the assembled crowd were brief, but he ended by declaring to all: "I die the King's good servant, and God's first".

Caught between competing loyalties, More had chosen his duty to God. ⊙

#### **GET HOOKED**



#### READ

Thomas More by Joanne Paul (Polity Press, 2016) is a detailed study of More's writings, the centrepiece of which is his celebrated *Utopia* 

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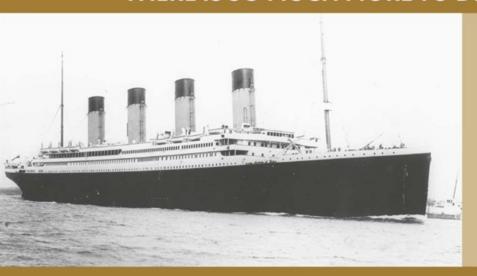
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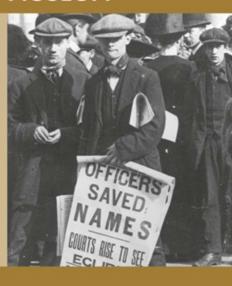
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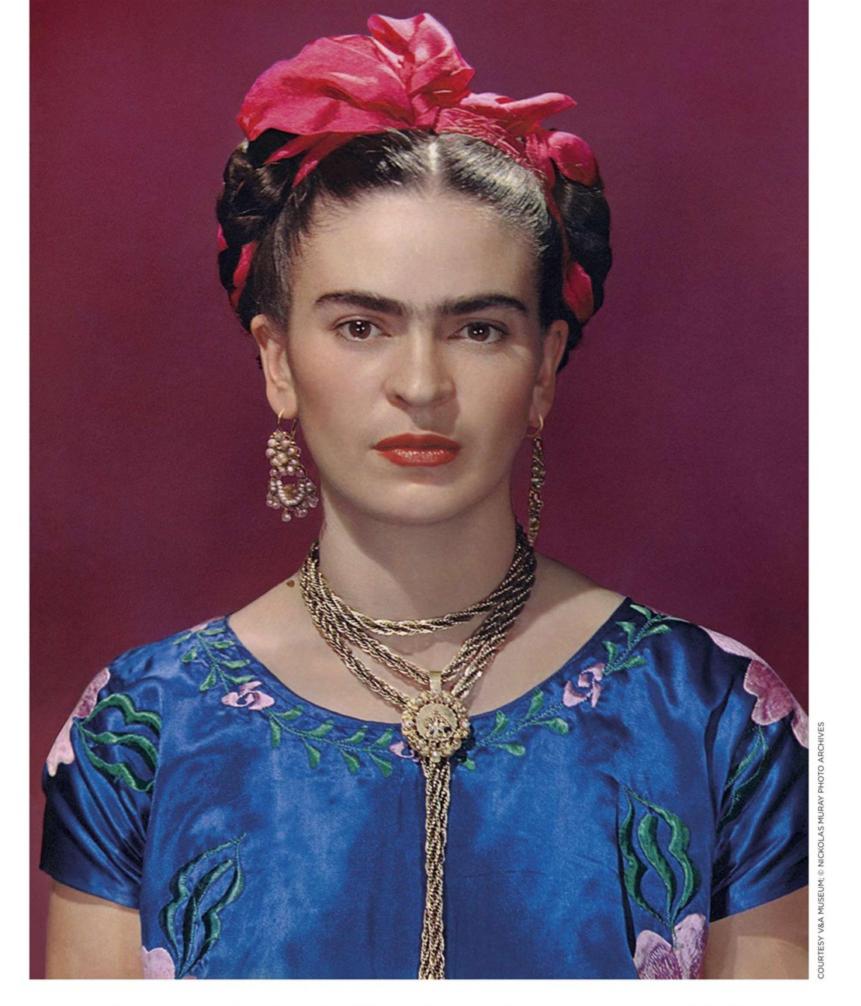


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# THE TORTURED ARTIST

Her face may be better known than her art, but Frida Kahlo's tragic history deserves just as much recognition, says **Alicea Francis** 

hey say that the flapping of a butterfly's wings in Brazil can cause a tornado in Texas; that a seemingly insignificant decision can change a person's life in the most unimaginable of ways. Frida Kahlo's butterfly moment occurred on 17 September 1925. She was boarding the bus home from school. Realising that she had left her umbrella behind, she disembarked and, after a fruitless search, boarded another.

The second bus did not reach its final destination. En route, it collided with a tram and Kahlo sustained near-fatal injuries. The course of her life, which until that point had been so clearly mapped out, had suddenly taken a dramatic turn – one that would see her rise to fame and become one of the most recognisable artists in global history.

Magdalena Carmen Frida Kahlo y Calderón was born in 1910, the first year of the Mexican Revolution – or, at least, that is what she would tell her acquaintances. She was actually born on 6 July 1907. Her father was a German photographer who had settled in Mexico City after his epilepsy prevented him from attending university; her mother was of Spanish and indigenous descent. At the age of six, she contracted polio and was left with a deformed leg. Following her illness, she and her father grew close – perhaps thanks to their shared experiences of disability – and she spent many hours with him in his studio, learning to retouch portraits.

Kahlo was also academically gifted, and at the age of 15 won herself a place at the prestigious National Preparatory School to study medicine. She proved a rebellious student, shunning authority and playing pranks on her teachers. It was during a journey home from the 'Prepa' that the 18-year-old Kahlo fell victim to that fateful bus crash. Of the accident, she wrote: "I sat down at the side, next to the handrail ... A moment or two later, the bus collided with a tram ... It was a peculiar sort of impact.

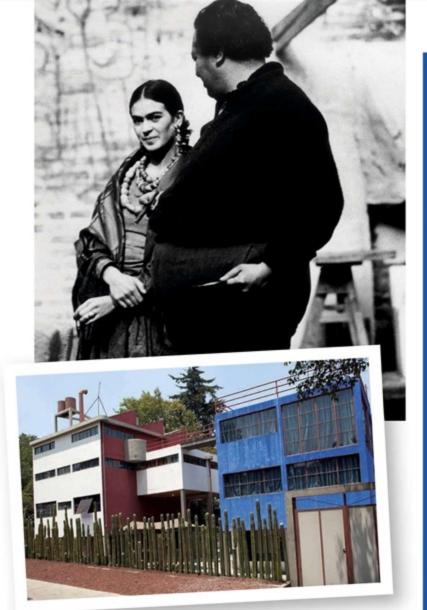
"In 1928, she met Diego Rivera – the man who she would later call her 'second accident'" It wasn't violent. It was muffled and slow and it injured everyone ... The impact hurled us forwards and the handrail went into me like a sword going into a bull."

#### REGARDING HERSELF

Kahlo sustained a triple fracture to her spine, fractures in her collarbone, ribs and pelvis, a dislocated shoulder, a perforated abdomen and a broken leg. She left hospital after a month, but was bed-bound on-and-off for more than two years. To keep her occupied, her mother had a special artist's easel made that Kahlo could use while lying down, and attached a mirror to the underside of her bed canopy so that she could paint self portraits. These would be the first of around 55 such works that she would paint during her lifetime. "I paint myself because I'm so often alone," she later said, "and because I'm the subject I know best."

It was not only Kahlo's bones that had been broken by the accident. Also shattered were her dreams of pursuing a medical career, as her spinal and leg injuries meant that she could no longer stand for any sustained period of time. Instead, she began to entertain the idea of becoming a professional artist. In 1928, she joined the Mexican Communist Party, and it was that June, through one of her fellow members, that she got to know Diego Rivera – the man who she would later call her "second accident".





Rivera was twice Kahlo's age and more than double her weight. With an enormous belly and frog-like features, it may not have been immediately obvious that he was a notorious womaniser. He was also famed across Mexico as a talented muralist and vocal member of the Communist Party.

One day, Kahlo appeared at the bottom of his scaffold in the Ministry of Education, where he was working on 'Creation', and called for him to come down. He obliged, somewhat begrudgingly, but was pleasantly surprised when she presented him with a few of her paintings. He later explained, "The canvases revealed an unusual energy of expression, precise delineation of character and true severity. They showed none of the tricks in the name of originality that usually mark the work of ambitious beginners." She invited him to her home to see more, and the pair soon became an item.

#### **ELEPHANT AND DOVE**

When they married in June 1929, Kahlo's father was the only member of her family in attendance. Her mother described it as a union between "an elephant and dove", but her father understood that at least Rivera could pay for the medical treatments that Kahlo would likely require for the rest of her life. At the wedding, Kahlo wore traditional street

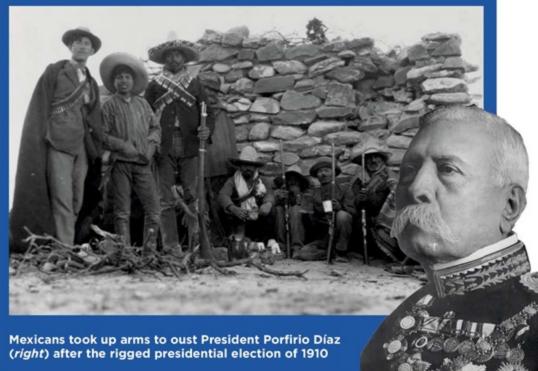
ABOVE: The twin houses of Kahlo and Rivera, close but distinctly apart, a mirror of their relationship. TOP: The couple in San Francisco; Rivera divorced the mother of his two children to be with Kahlo

A PEASANTS' REVOLT

# MADERO, MEXICANIDAD AND REVOLUTION

For 31 of the 35 years between 1876 until 1911, Mexico's president was Porfirio Díaz. His economic policies served only the wealthy, leaving peasants and the working classes unable to make a living. In 1910, as he was running for his seventh term as president, Francisco Madero emerged as leader of the 'Antireeleccionistas' and declared himself a candidate. Madero was arrested and Díaz claimed he had won the election, leading to a revolt by the people. In the spring of 1911, Díaz was forced to resign and Madero was elected president. But with counter-revolutionaries fighting back, the conflict lasted for almost a decade.

Before the revolution, Mexican folk culture – a mixture of indigenous and European elements – was suppressed by the elite, who claimed to have purely European ancestry and regarded the West as the definition of civilisation. The post-revolutionary Mexicanidad movement sought to redefine Mexican identity through the rediscovery of its pre-Columbian and indigenous heritage. Music, fashion, architecture and art were all influenced, as is visible in much of Frida Kahlo's work.



clothes that she had borrowed from her maid, beginning a habit that would continue for the rest of her life.

Every morning, she adorned herself with beaded necklaces, long skirts and embroidered tops in the indigenous style, embracing the Mexicanidad movement that had developed in the aftermath of the revolution. When the pair travelled to San Francisco in November 1930 – Kahlo's first trip outside of Mexico – photographer Edward Weston wrote: "She causes much excitement ... People stop in their tracks to look in wonder."

The next year, they returned to the US – this time to New York City, where Rivera would host his first retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art. Kahlo hated their time in the city, describing it as "an enormous chicken coop". She despaired at the gap between rich and poor, and caused a scene in hotels where Jews

were prohibited. Her language could, at times, be as colourful as her clothes.

It was in early 1932, during a year-long stay in Detroit, that Kahlo fell pregnant. Following the bus accident, she had been told that she would be unable to carry a child to term due to the damage sustained to her pelvis. With a heavy heart, she arranged for an abortion, but later discovered that she was still pregnant. Desperate to have a "little Digueto", she decided to keep the child, but in July she miscarried. The trauma would inspire her to create some of her most controversial pieces to date.

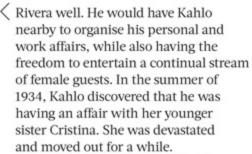
#### SEPARATE LIVES

With their return to Mexico, Rivera and Kahlo acquired a pair of homes in San Ángel connected via a staircase. Here, the couple would live separately – an arrangement that seemed to suit

Given her affair with Trotsky (second right), Kahlo was briefly suspected of being involved in his murder in 1940



Kahlo shares a tender moment with Rivera. As her condition worsened, she turned to drink to "drown the pain"



Eventually, Kahlo decided to take Rivera back, writing that "all these letters, liaisons with petticoats, lady teachers of English, gypsy models, assistants with good intentions, plenipotentiary emissaries from distant places, only represent *flirtations*, and that at bottom, *you and I* love each other dearly". In both cases the emphasis is hers, but even so it appears she decided that their marriage would become an open one. She soon began her own affairs, with both men and women.

In September 1936, Rivera appealed to the Mexican President to grant Leon Trotsky asylum in Mexico. The Russian revolutionary leader had lived in exile in Turkey, France and Norway since 1929, and the previous month the Stalinist regime had found him guilty of treason and sentenced him to death in absentia.



#### "Kahlo struggled to make a living from her work until the mid-1940s"

Seeing the danger he was now in, asylum was granted, and it was Kahlo who greeted Trotsky and his wife off the boat. The pair were put up in Kahlo's childhood home, La Casa Azul (The Blue House), and she spent many hours there conversing with Trotsky in English – a language that neither of their partners spoke well. Their mutual affection soon turned to intimacy, and they began a passionate affair that would last for the next year.

André Breton, the leader of the Surrealist movement, travelled to Mexico in 1938, and he too was blown away by Kahlo's work. He declared her a Surrealist, and she was invited by Julian Levy – the owner of a gallery in New York that specialised in Surrealist works – to exhibit there. An essay by Breton appeared in the handout, in which he declared her work a "ribbon around a bomb". Around half of the 25 paintings displayed were sold.

The following year, Breton arranged for her to exhibit in Paris, and her selfportrait 'The Frame' was bought by the Louvre. It was the first work by a 20thcentury Mexican artist to be purchased by a major international museum.

#### **UNLIKELY REUNION**

Upon her return to Mexico, her relationship with Rivera deteriorated and he requested a divorce. Kahlo was crushed. Over the months that followed. her health worsened and she began drinking heavily. Learning of her condition, Rivera - who had by now been commissioned to paint a mural in San Francisco - encouraged her to fly out and see his doctor there. She was prescribed bed rest, a healthy diet and, controversially, a reunion with Rivera - although the doctor himself declared him "unfit for monogamy". Rivera agreed and on 8 December 1940 - just a year after their divorce - they were remarried.

Despite her treatment, Kahlo's health problems continued, particularly her back issues, and she was forced to wear corsets made from steel and leather or plaster. She spent much time confined to La Casa Azul, where her only company was her menagerie of pets, including spider monkeys, Xoloitzcuintli dogs and parrots. Her work continued to gain recognition, but she struggled to make a living from it until the mid-1940s, as she refused to adapt her style to suit her clients' wishes.

Kahlo spent much of 1950 in hospital, where she underwent an unsuccessful bone graft that caused an infection and left her wheelchair-bound. Despite this, she continued to campaign for the communist cause, saying, "I must struggle with all my strength to ensure that the little positive my health allows me to do also benefits the revolution, the only real reason to live."

In April 1953, realising that she was gravely ill, the photographer Lola Álvarez Bravo organised the first solo exhibition of Kahlo's work in Mexico. On the evening of the private viewing, Kahlo was in a particularly bad way, so Rivera arranged for her four-poster bed to be set up in the gallery.

In August, her right leg was amputated at the knee due to gangrene, and she fell into a deep depression. In February 1954, she wrote: "I keep on wanting to kill myself. Rivera is what keeps me from it, through my vain idea that he would miss me ... But never in my life have I suffered more. I will wait a while..."

Kahlo's final public appearance was on 2 July 1954, at a demonstration against the CIA invasion of Guatemala. The event would prove more than her body could handle. On 12 July, she presented Rivera with a ring for their silver wedding anniversary – more than a month early. When he asked why she was doing so, she replied: "Because I feel I am going to leave you very soon." The next morning, she was dead. The official cause stated was a pulmonary embolism, but many believe she committed suicide by overdose.

It wasn't until the 1970s that Kahlo stopped being known as "the wife of Diego Rivera" and became a name unto herself. In 1976, at the height of secondwave feminism, a documentary titled The Life and Death of Frida Kahlo was released. The film exposed her to a public that was now ready for her story, and the feminist, Chicano (Mexican-American) and LGBT communities took Kahlo as their icon. Her fame only continued to grow over the decades that followed, and her image began to appear on T-shirts, mugs and cushion covers. Today, people know her face even if they



Kahlo presided over her first - and only - solo exhibition from her own bed, moved to the gallery for the occasion

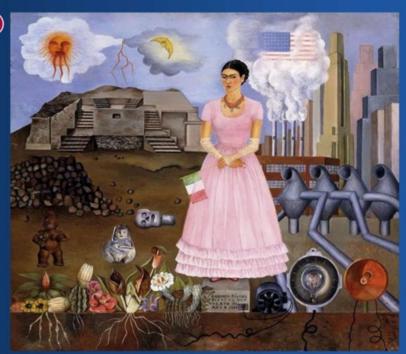
do not know what she accomplished. In an age when self-portraiture has become the defining visual genre, Frida Kahlo has never been more popular.

> Turn the page to see some of Frida Kahlo's greatest works

**GET HOOKED** 

#### FRIDA KAHLO: MAKING HER SELF UP

Now you can see the politically charged and frankly unapologetic artist as she saw herself. This exhibition at the V&A in London unites the original selfie queen's dramatic, unflitered self portraits with the festive garments and bright jewellery she wore throughout her life. Tickets are £15, exhibition ends 4 November.



 'Self-portrait on the Border between Mexico and the United States of America' 2. Silver, turquoise and coral necklace 3. Red Revlon lipstick and other make-up items
 Prosthetic leg with leather boot 5. Guatemalan cotton coat





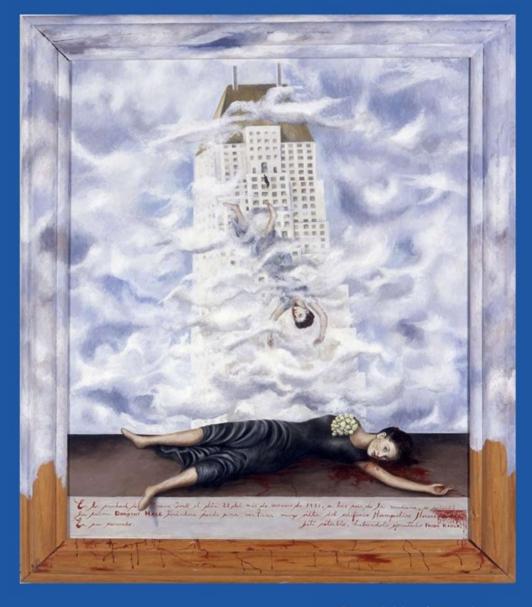
**(5)** 



# KAHLO'S GREATEST WORKS

▼ In 'Self-portrait With Cropped Hair', painted following one of Rivera's affairs, Kahlo poses in men's clothing, having just cut her hair short. The scissors hover close to her nether regions. The text reads, "If I loved you, it was because of your hair, you see. Now that you're bald, I don't love you any more."

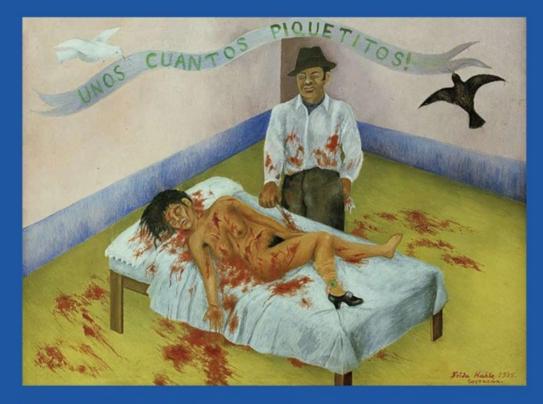






- ▲ The 'Suicide of Dorothy
  Hale' depicts the tragic
  death of the titular American
  socialite, who jumped from
  a New York building. It was
  commissioned by Hale's
  friend Clare Boothe Luce, who
  wanted a simple portrait for
  Hale's mother. Luce was so
  disgusted when this painting
  was presented that she
  attempted to tear it up.
- ◄ 'Roots' features one of Kahlo's most-used motifs, her connection with nature and the Earth. In 2006, it was sold to an anonymous bidder for \$5,616,000, setting a new record for her work. It is rumoured that the purchaser was Madonna, who owns several other Kahlo originals.

RTWORK BY FRIDA KAHLO © BANCO DE MÉXICO DIEGO RIVERA FRIDA KAHLO MUSEUMS TRUST, MEXICO, D.E./DACS 2016



▲ In 1935, following the discovery that Rivera was having an affair with her sister, Kahlo painted 'A Few Small Nips'. It portrayed a grisly murder scene. The victim is a young woman, while the perpetrator looks suspiciously like Rivera.

▼ In the double self-portrait 'The Two Fridas', Kahlo paints herself in both European and traditional Mexican dress. Created around the time of her divorce from Rivera, it is believed to show the two elements of her identity: the one that Rivera loved, and the one that he did not.





The incorrect announcement of someone's demise isn't the preserve of the 'fake news' era

Words: Nige Tassell



# HEMINGWAY FEARED DEAD IN NILE AIR CRASH



#### **ERNEST** HEMINGWAY

Lived 1899-1961

The writer and his wife, Mary, endured plane crashes in successive days on a trip to Africa in 1954. The obituary writers got busy, but - although seriously injured - the couple survived both accidents. Hemingway then spent his recuperation gleefully reading a succession of printed tributes, presumably with his customary drink close to hand.

s on every Nobel Prize medal **ROBERT GRAVES** 

Lived 1895-1985

In 1916, Robert Graves was not yet a celebrated poet, but a young soldier suffering what would surely be fatal wounds. His commanding officer began to compose a

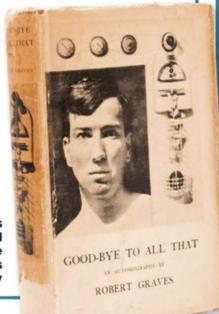
Nobel certainly changed

his legacy - his face

familiar letter: "Dear Mrs Graves. I very much

regret to have to write and tell you your son has died..." After the letter was despatched to Britain, the 20-year-old rallied to make a sterling recovery. He would live for almost 70 more years.

Graves was chums with Siegfried Sassoon – until he published this autobiography



#### ALFRED NOBEL

Lived 1833-1896

In 1888, the death of Alfred Nobel's brother was announced as his own. As the inventor of dynamite, he was described by one French newspaper as "the merchant of death" who "became rich by finding more ways to kill people faster than ever before". Shocked, Nobel was determined to improve his legacy, leaving money in trust after his actual death in 1896 to set up the Nobel Prizes.

Dury found fame during rock's New Wave era

#### **IAN DURY**

Lived 1942-2000

In 1998, the death of singer Ian Dury was announced on London radio station XFM by guest presenter Bob Geldof. "I felt very cross with Bob," explained the frontman of Ian Dury and the Blockheads a few days later. "He didn't check his sources. He apologised over the airwaves, but he hasn't apologised to me. What would have happened if my family had heard that broadcast?'



#### **MARK TWAIN**

Lived 1835-1910

The author and humourist suffered the ignominy of being prematurely announced dead twice. After the first time, he famously noted that "the report of my death was an exaggeration". After the second occasion, when the New York Times suggested he had been the victim of a yachting accident, Twain declared, in the same paper, that he would "make an exhaustive investigation of this report that I have been lost at sea".

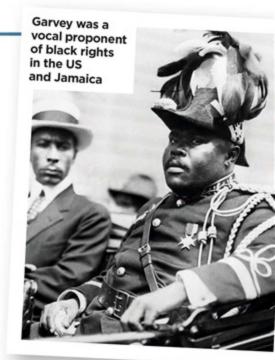
Born two weeks after Halley's Comet appeared in 1835, Twain predicted he would "go out with it". He died during its 1910 return



Lived 1887-1940

In January 1940, the Jamaican black nationalist suffered a stroke. Having recovered by May, a copy of the *Chicago Defender* newspaper landed through the letterbox of his London home. Its pages contained an obituary that reported he had died "broke, alone and unpopular". Reading it had dire consequences, according to his secretary. "He was faced with clippings of his own obituary and pictures of himself with deep black

borders. He collapsed in his chair and could hardly be understood after that." Garvey had suffered a second stroke and passed away shortly after.



Coleridge's works include the Rime of the Ancient Mariner

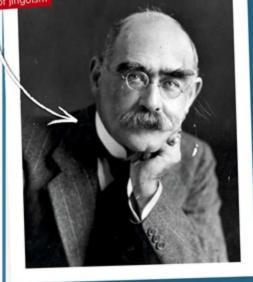
moment be speaking to you."

#### SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

Lived 1772-1834

In 1816, a man's body was found hanging from a tree in London's Hyde Park and was identified, from the name stitched into his jacket, as Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Only after the death notices were printed was it discovered that the jacket had been stolen from the very-much-alive poet. On hearing someone reading one such report

out loud, Coleridge piped up: "It is a most extraordinary thing that he should have hanged himself, be the subject of an inquest, and yet that he should at this



#### RUDYARD KIPLING

Lived 1865-1936

The poet and author was another to experience the dubious pleasure of reading about his own demise. His response to the magazine that had been too quick off the mark to publish his obituary was deliciously tart: "I've just read that I am dead. Don't forget to delete me from your list of subscribers."

Kipling's ashes were interred in Westminster Abbey, next to those of Charles Dickens

#### JOE DIMAGGIO

Lived 1914-1999

In January 1999, the baseball legend (and former Mr Marilyn Monroe) was relaxing at home, watching television with his friend and lawyer Morris Engelberg. When he changed channels to NBC, he was greeted by the scrolling news announcing his death. Engelberg was quick with the quip, "Joe, we must be in heaven together". DiMaggio died for real in March.



Lived 1930-2008

In the television age, the race to be first with breaking news can backfire. One such example came in October 2005, and was far from the

finest hour of Sky News or of newscaster Ginny Buckley. "The playwright Harold Pinter, I believe, has just died. News just..." Then a pause. A very awkward pause. "He's won the Nobel Prize for Literature."



Pinter was one of the most influential modern dramatists

DiMaggio still holds the record base hitting streak (56 games) in Major League Baseball



What's the worst case of someone being 'buried alive' by the press?

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#### AT A GLANCE

The "unsinkable" RMS Titanic was a marvel, the largest passenger ship in the world, seen here departing from Southampton on 10 April 1912. Bound for New York, the vessel carried some of the wealthiest people of the era on her maiden voyage, as well as emigrants hoping for a slice of the American Dream.

WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN
This poster advertises the Titanic's return voyage from New York back to Britain - a jouney the vessel would never make. She sank five days into her maiden crossing.

# RMS TITANIC

The *Titanic* was supposed to be remembered for its unrivalled luxury – instead, its legacy is as one of history's worst maritime disasters



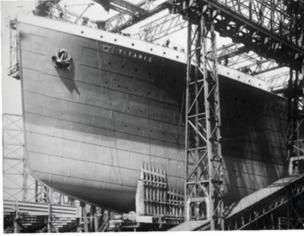
#### BUILDING A BEHEMOTH

The ship's construction was a gigantic task that took 26 months



#### COLOSSAL

Some 3,000 men built the *Titanic*, which at 269m was the world's largest man-made moving object. There were 246 injuries and eight deaths recorded during the construction.



#### THE JEWEL IN THE CROWN

The *Titanic* was intended to be amongst the most luxurious ships, along with the *Olympic* and *Britannic* – giving the White Star Line company an edge in the transatlantic passenger trade.



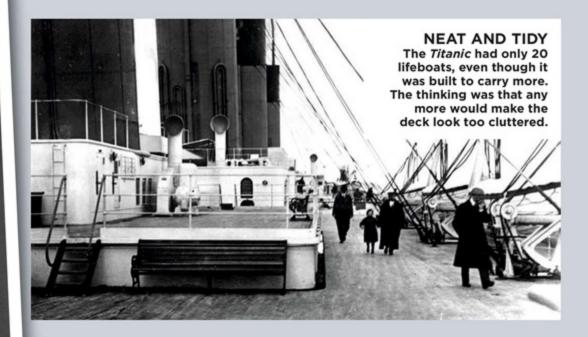
#### HORSE POWER

It took 20 shire horses to pull *Titanic*'s 16-ton anchor from the Midlands forge in which it was cast to Dudley rail station. From there, it was sent to Harland and Wolff's shipyard in Belfast.

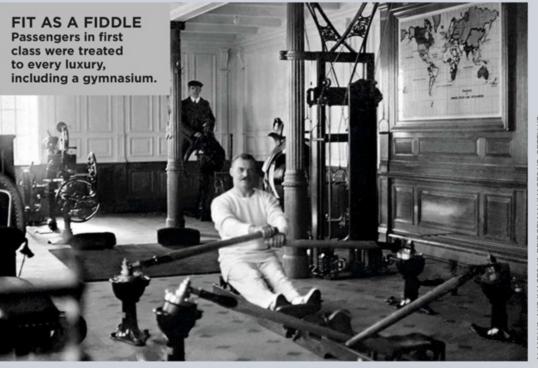














#### sos

The Titanic received several ice warnings, but did not alter its course. Harold Bride, seen here being helped off the RMS Carpathia - the ship that picked up Titanic survivors - was one of the wireless operators who frantically sent SOS messages in the wake of the iceberg collision.

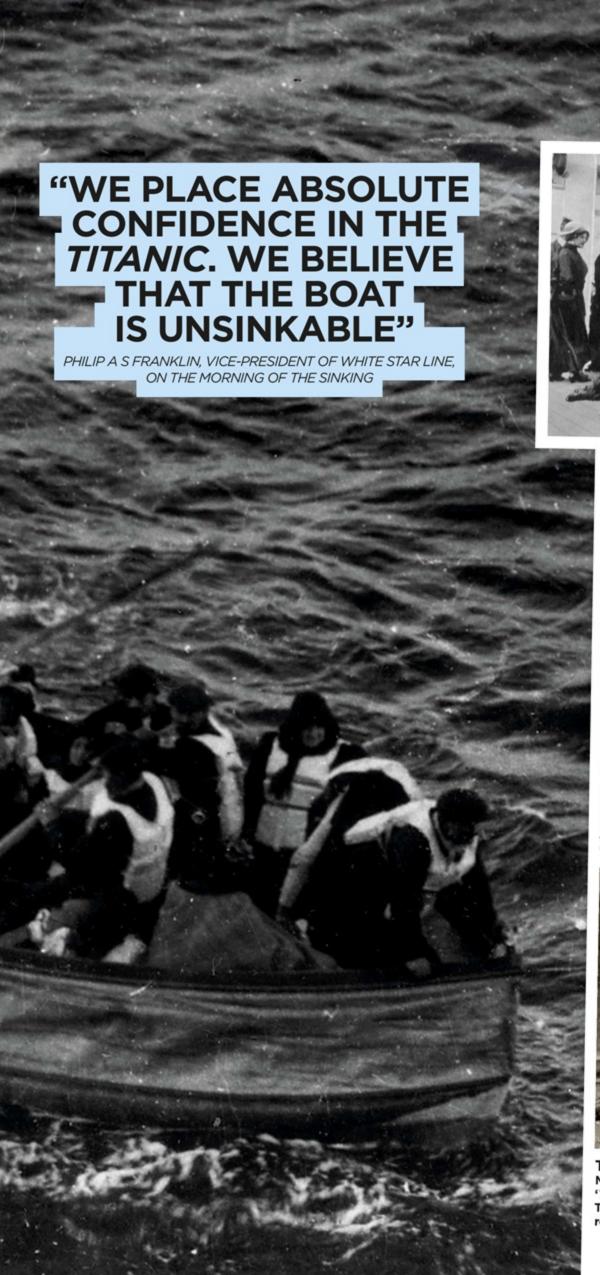




#### **BAD MATHS**

There were enough lifeboats for 1,178 people, which was more than legal requirment – even though the *Titanic* had capacity of around 3,300.

Each boat could hold 65 people, but when the *Titanic* began to sink the first set off with only 28 aboard.



#### **DISASTER STRIKES**

The *Titanic* collided with an iceberg just before midnight on 14 April and sank within three hours



#### FIRST HELP ARRIVES

The Carpathia arrived approximately an hour and a half after the sinking to rescue the survivors, seen here being given blankets on deck. Only 700 of the 2,200 passengers and crew escaped.



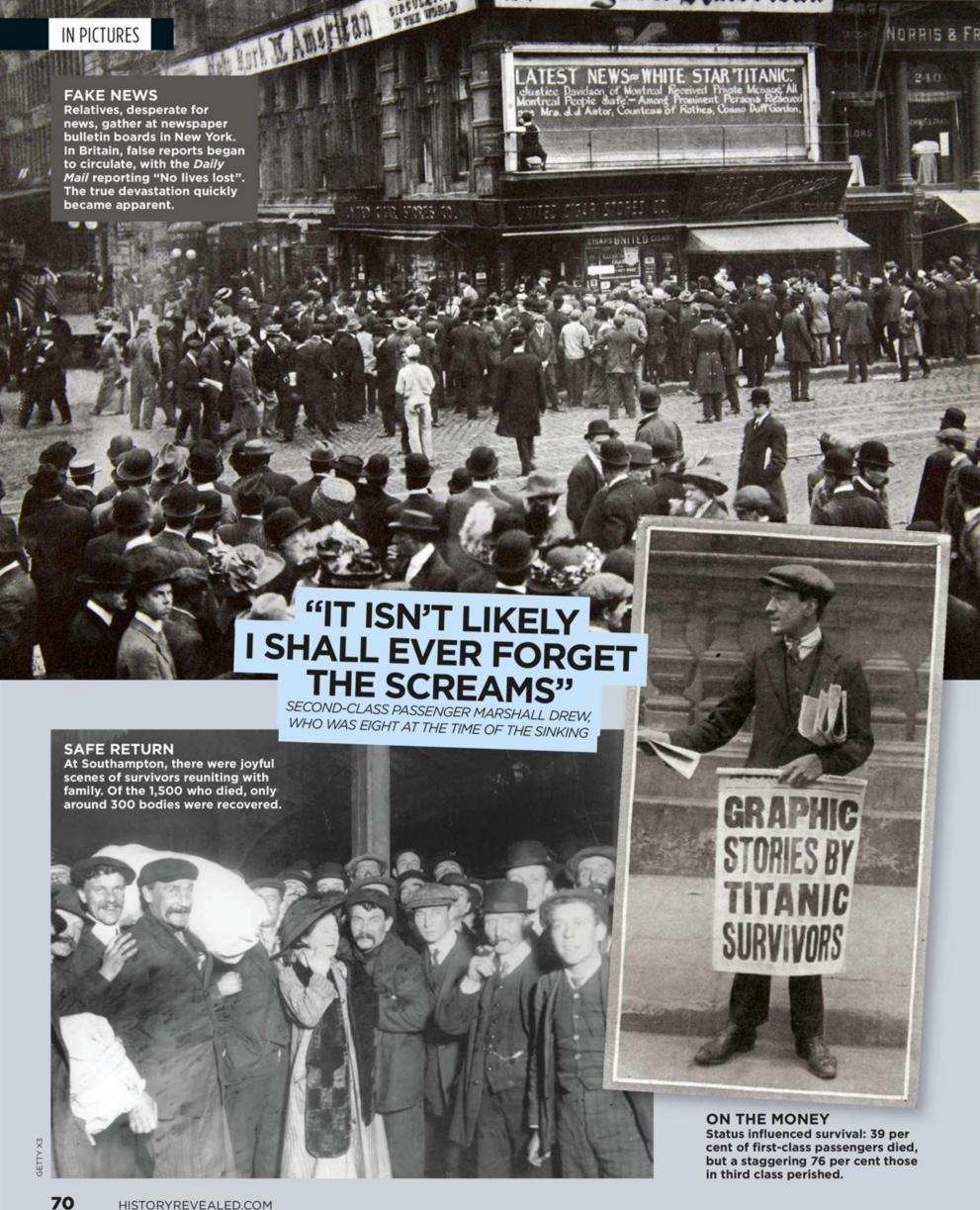
#### NOTHING LEFT

These passengers have arrived safely back in Plymouth and are awaiting their onward journey. Those who were emigrating were among the hardest hit, losing everything.



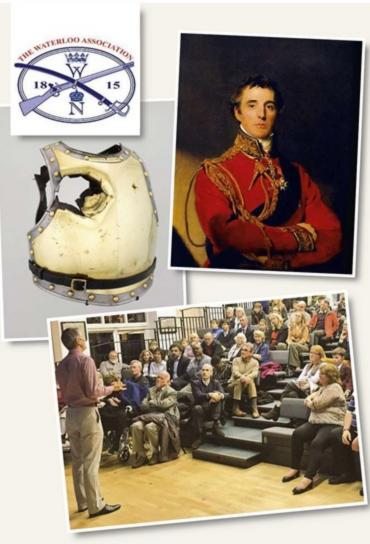
#### TORN APART AND REUNITED

Michel and Edmond Navratil, known as the 'Titanic Orphans', were rescued by the Carpathia. Their father perished, but they were eventually reunited with their mother, who was not aboard.









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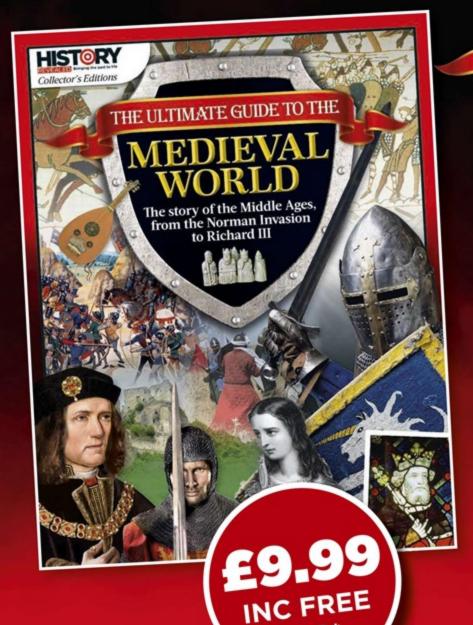
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## **B**&A YOU ASK, WE ANSWER

## **WHAT WAS THE REACTION TO DARWIN'S** THEORY OF EVOLUTION?

Considering how epochal On the Origin of Species proved to be, it had come after other works that caused arguably greater scandal. Charles Darwin waited more than 20 years following his voyage on the Beagle before publishing, in 1859, during which time The Constitution of Man (1828) and Vestige of the Natural History of Creation (1844)

ignited controversy. The debate

amongst scientific and religious groups was, as it were, already evolving.

That is not to say his theory of evolution was unnoticed: it became a much-discussed, praised and condemned bestseller internationally. Early reviews were unfriendly, simplistically summing up the book's conclusions as 'humans come from apes' (Darwin never said that). There was an inevitable backlash from some religious leaders, who decried it as heresy. The most famous debate was between Bishop of Oxford Samuel Wilberforce and biologist Thomas Henry Huxley, who became known as 'Darwin's bulldog'.

But it would be wrong to think that the reaction was neatly split, with

scientific supporters on one side and religious opponents on the other. While some naturalists were reluctant to see evolution as the answer, there were many in the religious community declaring natural selection to be proof of God's design.

Darwin, who almost entered the clergy, never saw his work as an attack on God. When people wrote to him asking whether it was possible to believe in his theory and God, he replied with a "yes" and a list of scientists who did just that.

February 1809 in Shropshire another 19th-century giant came into the world - Abraham

BIRDS OF A FEATHER?

Not all scientists backed Darwin's theory, but some theologians did



## **HOW LONG HAS SWITZERLAND BEEN NEUTRAL?**

Thanks to its skilled mercenaries, Switzerland used to have a very different military reputation to the one it has today. But, at the Battle of Marignano in 1515, the French dealt the Old Swiss Confederacy a defeat so crushing it gave up trying to expand its territory and signed a peace with France that lasted almost 300 years. It was only broken when Napoleon invaded, but once he had been defeated in 1815, the Congress of Vienna recognised the "perpetual neutrality" of Switzerland. That said, the Swiss still have an army - and no, it is not armed with multi-tooled knives.

## leg amputated after being

with cannon salutes

Could slaves buy their freedom in Rome?

Being a Roman slave - as you may guess - did not come with many perks. They were denied citizenship, so could be mistreated and killed on a whim, yet there were opportunities that other slaves throughout history lacked. Their fate depended on their master. A slave could earn money and property, but everything belonged to their masters and it was up to each Roman to determine whether their slave could keep their assets in order to buy their freedom for an agreed sum, under the system of manumission. By the early first century, the number of freed slaves had risen to such an extent it caused a concerned Emperor Augustus to curb the practice.

## hit during a battle in 1838. Four years later, he had his leg exhumed and given a state funeral, complete

ON THE TOSS OF A COIN Swiss mercenary pikemen were a mainstay of foreign armies in the Renaissance period - even after Marignano

## **WHAT WAS THE MISSION OF APOLLO 1?**

The Apollo programme had one overarching commitment: fulfil the ambitious goal announced in 1961 by President John F Kennedy to put a man on the Moon by the end of the decade. Bold talk from the nation coming second in the Space Race. Still, JFK said they were doing it not because it was easy, but because it was hard. And the tragedy surrounding Apollo 1 demonstrated that all too potently.

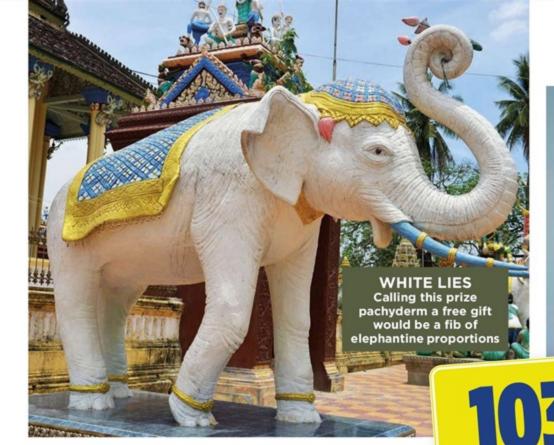
The mission was scheduled to launch in early 1967, in the aftermath of the Mercury programme, which first put Americans in space, and Gemini. Its aim was to test NASA's

command/service module in low-Earth orbit, ahead of a future shot at the Moon. Officially designated AS-204, it didn't even get to launch. A fire during a rehearsal on 27 January killed all three of the crew: the experienced astronauts Gus Grissom and Ed White, and newcomer Roger B Chaffee.

NASA subsequently designated AS-204 as Apollo 1 in honour of the trio. Improvements in safety and protocol in the aftermath of the tragedy were instrumental in the Apollo 11 Moon landing in July 1969, so that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin could make small steps for man and giant leaps for mankind.



FRUITY FINIALS Pineapples represented



## WHY DO WE SAY 'WHITE ELEPHANT'?

Rare, pale-skinned elephants were long considered sacred in Siam (modern-day Thailand), appearing on flags and symbolising royal power. Yet the pachyderms came at a price. Such was their prestige that they could not be used for work, and they required expensive food and specially made housing. According to legend, the kings of Siam presented a white elephant as a punishment-in-disguise

to an unruly courtier. They had to accept the gift as a great honour, all the while knowing it

would cost them a fortune. Although it is more likely that courtiers cared little for the cost, and it was actually foreign travellers who balked at the amount spent on an elephant, we still use the term to mean an expensive, useless item that is more trouble than it's worth.

The possible number of children of Ancient Egyptian Pharaoh Ramesses

the Great. He had eight wives during his 90-year reign, half of them his

own daughters.

## What sport was purring?

Nothing to do with cats – in fact, it's hard to imagine cats risking one of their nine lives in such a way as this bone-cracking

sport. Otherwise known as hacking or shin-kicking, it involves two contestants booting each other in the shins while wearing wooden shoes, until one is knocked to the ground, yields or blood is shed. A variant saw the contestants kick each other while perched on the edge of a barrel.

Despite it being illegal, purring was a popular pastime amongst 18thcentury factory workers and coal miners, decked out in their clogs, in the north of England. It is still played today, although with soft shoes and socks and trouser legs stuffed with straw.



KNOCKED INTO SHAPE
Shin-kickers were said to boost their pain
endurance by hitting their legs with hammers

# Why are there pineapples on St Paul's Cathedral?

If you visit London, forget the usual city tours and go pineapple hunting. The prickly fruit can be found everywhere, adorning roofs, doorways and railings in gold, iron or stone. Sir John Soane, the architect, liked them so much that he put one on his tomb, and when Christopher Wren designed the new St Paul's Cathedral, what was the object he thought should rise from the ashes of the Great Fire? You've guessed it.

London's pineapple passion began after another Christopher – Columbus – tasted one while in modernday Guadeloupe in 1493 and brought them back to Europe. The fruit delighted the taste buds of kings, queens and nobles, and, as they could not be easily grown, they became a symbol of wealth and status.

Buying a pineapple would set a person back the equivalent of £5,000 today. Those not able to make such an investment for what is, after all, a perishable item, could rent one to be the centrepiece for parties. They were too valuable to eat. That had to wait until their good looks had withered and rotted away.

For centuries, pineapples remained the rare preserve of the elite, but the poor could still enjoy them in stone and metal. Such was Wren's affection for the pineapple – which took on religious symbolism as well – that he originally wanted the dome of St Paul's to boast one 60ft high. Enough to feed the city of London, he may have thought.

## Why did women ride side saddle?

"The woman does not live who can throw her leg over the back of a horse without profaning the grace of femininity; or grasp with her separated knees the shoulders of her mount without violating the laws of good taste; or appear in the cross-saddle with any semblance of dignity, elegance or poise." So read a 1905 edition of the *LA Times*.

The male columnist was hardly voicing a new position, as evidence of women riding side saddle goes back hundreds of years. To have one leg on either side was considered unfeminine, improper and impractical (women's thighs were supposedly the wrong shape).

In 1382, Princess Anne of Bohemia rode across Europe to be married to Richard II of England, sitting on a chair-like side saddle the whole way to protect her virginity. To ride with both legs on one side was more dangerous than with a regular saddle as it gave the rider less control of the horse. It was also harder to escape if the horse fell.

The number of napkins

used by inventor and

germaphobe Nikola

Tesla to clean his

silverware and glasses

before a meal.

Not every woman was happy to ride side saddle, though. Catherine the Great took the reins, as it were, and caused outrage in the imperial court of Russia by riding like a man.

# Why did Native Americans scalp their enemies?

The taking of grisly trophies from slain enemies has been seen throughout human history. Native Americans are still most associated with scalping, but it was not unique to their tribes – Herodotus mentioned it in fifth-century-BC Greece – and after the arrival of Europeans, they were more likely to be victims than the instigators.

The practice may have started as an easier and lighter alternative to removing the whole head, although scalps weren't removed from only the dead. Live victims

endured their heads being sliced open with a blade or sharpened stone, with some surviving the procedure. The scalps themselves took on different meanings to individual tribes. They could represent bravery, be collected to prove the status of a warrior, or be offered to the spirits of the dead.

Europeans soon adopted scalping after they settled in North America, replacing the status and religious symbolism with fear and money. They placed bounties on Native American warrior heads, which led to mass violence against women and children – one scalp looks much the same another.

The Columbian has tred provided profit.

The Standard was and to the benefit of the standard and the standar

## A HEAD FOR MONEY

British officers were accused of paying Native Americans for settlers' scalps during the Revolutionary War

How did Area 51 become associated with aliens?

How do you explain the numerous mysterious craft spotted near the US Air Force installation in the Nevada desert? Aliens, obviously.

The truth isn't necessarily out there. In 1955, the remote site designated as Area 51 was ideal for test flights of the Lockheed U-2 reconnaissance aircraft. Whereas other aircraft flew at 10,000-20,000ft, the U-2 maxed out at 70,000ft. If and when people managed to spy the spy plane, they had no earthbound explanation.

The US Government wasn't exactly going to soil its secrets. It only officially confirmed Area 51's existence in 2013.

U-F-NO
The Lockheed
U-2 shares little in common with a flying saucer

## NOW SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS



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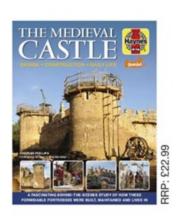


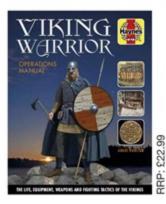
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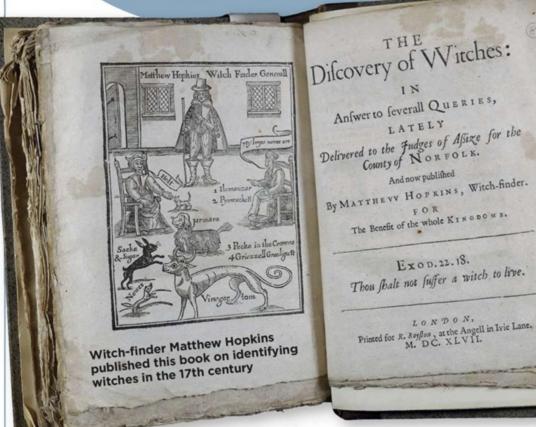
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## ON OUR RADAR

A guide to what's happening in the world of history over the coming weeks



## WHAT'S ON



RIGHT: A human heart (found in a heart-shaped case), dating to the 13th century. Perhaps it was used for love potions?

BELOW: This doll looks like it could have been a real headache





## **EXHIBITION**

## Spellbound

The Ashmolean, Oxford, 31 August to 6 January www.ashmolean.org/spellbound

Superstition and ritual are part of many people's daily lives, whether that means wearing that 'lucky' shirt to an interview or not crossing on the stairs. Spellbound explores the history of magical thinking and witchcraft across the centuries, and includes contemporary art works demonstrating how magical thinking is still evident today. As well as looking at objects that were believed to offer protection, it uncovers the persecution of those thought to be witches.

## BRITAIN'S TREASURES Highclere Castle, aka



## воок REVIEWS

Our look at the best new releases...p86



## POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST









## **Circus: Show** of Shows

Weston Park Museum, Sheffield, until 4 November bit.ly/2Jjrdbz

Roll up, roll up! The circus has come to Sheffield. As part of a national celebration marking 250 years of the circus, Weston Park Museum will host an exhibition uncovering real stories from the ring. Beyond the dazzling costumes and rare photographs, it will explore the hidden tales of female and black performers, and examine evolving attitudes surrounding animal performances.

ABOVE: Promotional posters for circuses

RIGHT: This bonobo once lived in Sheffield's

and menageries were often works of art

'jungle', as the menagerie was known

## **Tattoo: British Tattoo Art Revealed**

National Museum of the Royal Navy, Portsmouth, until 6 January www.nmrn.org.uk



Naval tattoos often charted a sailor's journeys across the sea



**Civilisations** 

Bucks County Museum, Aylesbury, until 5 September www.buckscountymuseum.org/museum/events/541/civilisations-an-interactive-lego-brick-adventure

Kids big and small can journey back in time through Lego this summer - and we don't mean digging out your stash of bricks in the attic. This interactive exhibition, developed by Bright Bricks, brings lost cultures to life through intricate dioramas and full-sized historical figures.

## TO BUY

## Stonehenge Bookend

£30, English Heritage www.english-heritageshop.org.uk

Keep your favourite books neat and tidy with a replica trilithon from Stonehenge. Handcrafted in England, you can rest safe in the knowledge that your tomes won't topple

- the venerable monument has, after all, been standing for millenia.

#### **EXHIBITION**

## Aftermath: Art in the Wake of WWI

Tate Britain, London, until 23 September bit.ly/2qjvrtf

The impact of World War I on art across Europe is examined in a moving showcase that marks 100 years since the war's end. From public memorials to criticism and the scars left behind, art has been used in a

variety of ways to make sense of a conflict that

> devastated Europe. Focusing on British, French and German art, it will feature work by artists such as Pablo Picasso and Winifred Knights.



Paul Nash's 'Wire' explores the catastrophe of war through the ruined landscape left behind

This bookbracing trilithon could double as an ornament

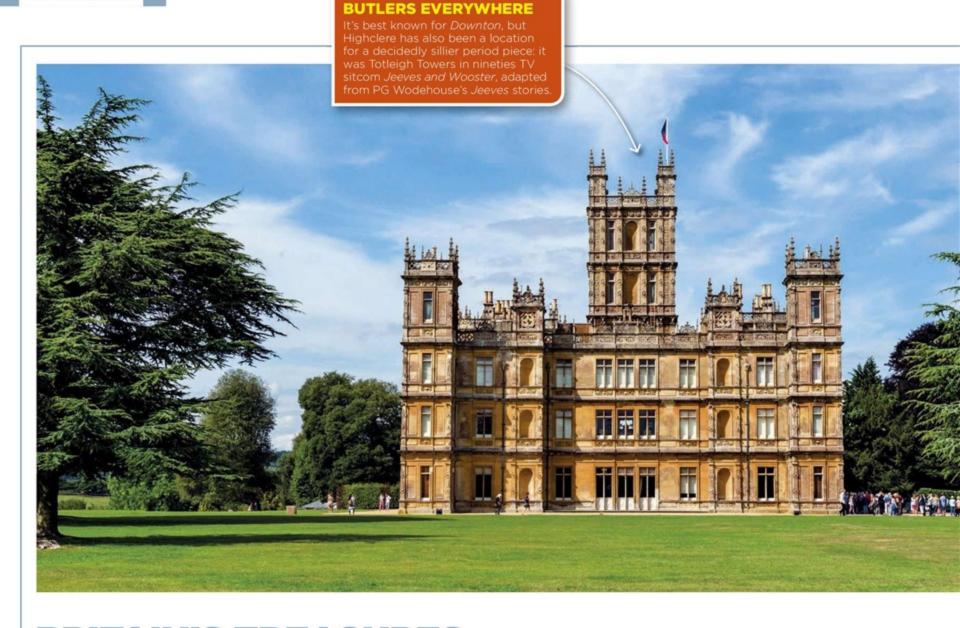
## **► ALSO LOOK OUT FOR**

► Wild West Show - Features sharpshooting, trick riding and a stagecoach battle. Royal Armouries, Leeds, 25-27 August. bit.ly/2Njqae5

▶ Victorian Giants: Birth of Art Photography - An exhibition examining the most iconic early photography. Millennium Gallery, Museum of Sheffield, until 23 September. bit.ly/20gsvYM

ONAL MARITIME MUSEUM CORNWALL/PHOTO BY PAUL ABBITT X1, ENGLISH HERITAGE X1, BRIGHT BRICKS LTD X2,

IWM (ART.IWM ART 2705) X1



## **BRITAIN'S TREASURES...**

## HIGHCLERE CASTLE Hampshire

**The imposing country house on the North Wessex Downs**, has been home to some very important figures – aside from the Crawleys of *Downton Abbey* 



s the sight of Highclere
Castle emerges from the
mist, you'd be forgiven
for imagining the piano notes that
form the theme of hit TV drama
Downton Abbey. Highclere was
used as the home of the fictional
Earl of Grantham and his family.
The real house, however, has a
past that could surpass even Lady
Mary's exploits.

Highclere Castle is the country seat of the Earls of Carnarvon. Set in 6,000 acres of land, it has so many rooms that even the current Lady Carnarvon isn't sure of the number – it's believed to be about 300, but some are unusable. At a glance it bears some resemblance to the Houses of Parliament, which can be attributed to the fact that both were designed by Charles Barry. The current house was finished in 1842 in the Jacobethan style, the Victorians being fans of reviving 16th- and 17th-century architecture. Barry, who was an admirer of the Italian Renaissance, added Italianate motifs throughout.

There have been many buildings on the site of the current house: one of the Anglo-Saxon charters mentions a structure in AD 749; there was a medieval palace belonging to the Bishops of Winchester; and a much-admired, red-brick Tudor house.

In 1793, Henry Herbert, a British Whig politician, was made Earl of Carnarvon by King George III. He had previously inherited Highclere, then a square mansion, from his uncle. Herbert had the grounds redesigned by famous landscape gardener Capability Brown, resulting in the nearby village (also called Highclere) being moved to make way.

The birth of modern-day Canada lies within the walls of Highclere.



## WHAT TO LOOK FOR...



### EGYPTIAN EXHIBITION

The cellars house an Egyptian exhibition, which includes some of the 5th Earl's antiquities collection. It also tells the story of how Tutankhamun's tomb was found.



#### THE MUSIC ROOM

This room is decorated with an intricate baroque ceiling and 16th-century embroideries on the walls. There's also a desk and chair (not shown) that belonged to Napoleon.



#### THE LIBRARY

The library holds more than 5,000 books, some dating from the 16th century. It was here that the 4th Earl would have discussed politics and prepared for Parliament.



#### JACKDAW'S CASTLE

Many follies stand in the wider grounds of the Highclere estate, including this replica Grecian temple. It grants a great view of Highclere Castle.



#### THE DINING ROOM

The central hub of the house, the State Dining Room has a painting of Charles I by Anthony van Dyck and was used frequently during the filming of *Downton Abbey*.

## "The birth of modern Canada lies within these walls"

The 4th Earl, Henry Herbert, was Secretary of State for the Colonies. It's believed that he drafted the British North America Act here. This act, granted royal assent in March 1867, united the British colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick into the selfgoverning Dominion of Canada.

## **TUT-MANIA**

The 5th Earl, George Herbert, was involved in one of the most significant discoveries of the 20th century: Tutankhamun's tomb. He was an amateur Egyptologist who often spent his holidays in Egypt, collecting antiques. In 1914, he employed archaeologist Howard Carter to dig at the Valley of the Kings. World War I and limited discoveries led the Earl

to decide, in late 1922, to stop funding the project. Then he received a telegram from Carter, which read: "At last have made wonderful discovery in Valley; a magnificent tomb with seals intact; recovered same for your arrival; congratulations."

Lord Carnarvon, along with his daughter Lady Evelyn, travelled to Egypt to witness the official tomb opening and, with Carter, became the first people in modern times to enter it.

That was on 16 February 1923. In March that year, Carnarvon suffered from a mosquito bite that became infected. His death on 5 April fuelled the myth of the 'Mummy's Curse'. Author Arthur Conan Doyle, a fan of the supernatural, suggested that

Carnarvon's death was due to a curse placed on those who disturbed the tomb.

In the second series of *Downton Abbey*, the house becomes a convalescent hospital for officers in World War I, a case of art imitating life. In 1914, Almina, Countess of Carnarvon opened the house to wounded soldiers and even assisted as a nurse. It would provide shelter again during World War II, as a home for evacuated children.

The Downs were also home to several air bases during World War II. Three days before VE Day, a B-17 bomber crashed into a hill behind the house, killing all but one of the airmen on board. Some of the aircraft wreckage is still in the grounds. •

## WHY NOT VISIT..

More dramatic periods to explore

### WINCHESTER

Just 20 miles away is the historic city of Winchester, the unofficial capital of Anglo-Saxon England, home to one of the largest cathedrals in Europe.

### DONNINGTON CASTLE

Located near Newbury, both Henry VIII and Elizabeth I are believed to have stayed in this 14th-century ruined castle. www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit. places/donnington-castle

## CHAWTON

This village was home to Jane Austen for the last eight years of her life. Her house is now a museum, where you can still see her writing table.

www.jane-austens-house-museum.org.uk

This month's best historical reads

## RED THREAD

On Mazes & Labyrinths



CHARLOTTE HIGGINS

navigates the origins
of the minotaur
maze story and
its impact on cultures
around the world"

## Red Thread: On Mazes and Labyrinths

By Charlotte Higgins

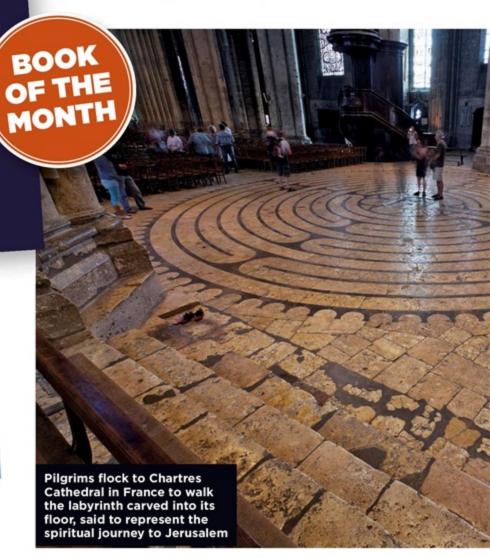
Jonathan Cape, £25, hardback, 224 pages,

The labyrinth of Crete, with its elaborate, winding paths and imprisoned half-man half-bull minotaur, remains a compelling image from ancient myth, even thousands of years later. In *Red Thread*, journalist Charlotte Higgins navigates the origins of the story and its impact on cultures around the world

 from other classical civilisations to medieval mazes and more modern constructions.

As perhaps befits its subject, this is not a straight history, but a personal journey into the worlds of literature, architecture and imagination. It won't be for everyone, but if you're captivated by the idea of mazes and labyrinths, it should prove fascinating.







The minotaur was said to be King Minos's son, born to his wife after some interference from the god Poseidon



## **MEET THE AUTHOR**

Journalist and author **Charlotte Higgins** tells us how, once she started unravelling the minotaur's den, she began to find labyrinths lurking all around

## What led you to write a book on mazes and why did you structure it in the way that you have?

The book is bound up in a memory of being taken to Knossos in Crete as a child – the site of the myth of the minotaur in the labyrinth, which Athenian hero Theseus kills with the help of Ariadne. When I started planning the book, I at first imagined it as a straightforward cultural history of mazes and labyrinths, but I quickly rejected that notion. The idea itself invites a more circuitous and discursive form, so the book itself became a kind of labyrinth.

### Why was the labyrinth such a persistent idea in the ancient world?

Perhaps because it provides such a rich fund of material, both visual and metaphorical. The minotaur's labyrinth is the original perfect humanmade structure – beautiful in its design, but at the same time a trap and a prison. The book has a couple of traps and tricks in it, too.

## Are there any other historical examples that stand out for you?

I love the way the idea of the labyrinth operates so expressively in George Eliot's 1871 novel Middlemarch. There is scene in which Dorothea is seen in a reverie beside the famous classical statue of Ariadne in the Vatican Museums in Rome. Eliot takes her cue from the sculpture to construct an elegant sequence

of linked images relating to the labyrinth. For instance, she tells us that, by marrying Casaubon, Dorothea had hoped to escape her narrow existence, "hemmed in by a social life which seemed nothing but a labyrinth of petty courses, a walled-in maze". But she has made a terrible mistake,

since Casaubon's mind is constructed of "anterooms and winding passages which seemed to lead nowhither". Once I'd started thinking about labyrinths, I seemed to find them everywhere.

## Which individuals in this story haven't had the recognition they deserve?

Cedric Price. Born in Staffordshire in 1934, he became one of Britain's most visionary architects. He worked with the director Joan Littlewood on the idea of the Fun Palace, a

revolutionary kind of arts centre, in the 1960s. It was never built, though it later influenced the Pompidou Centre. Later, in 1983, he proposed building a big wheel as a part of a radical masterplan for London's South Bank, which eventually inspired the London Eye.

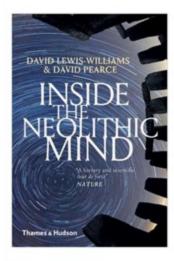
His most famous work is the aviary at London Zoo, which he co-designed, but he hated the notion of buildings that stood as monuments to the egos of their architects. Hardly any of his ideas were realised. The reason he comes into the book is that one of his most glorious ideas was the (also unbuilt) Potteries Thinkbelt, which was to be a kind of mobile university based on Stoke's labyrinthine, defunct local railway, the Loop Line.



"In 1983, Price proposed building a big wheel on London's South Bank, which eventually inspired the London Eye"

## What lessons does this book have to teach us about the maze, and about life more generally?

I hope that the book opens up the nature of the labyrinth and shows how rich and intriguing it is – as physical forms to lose oneself in, and as a visual idea and a literary metaphor.

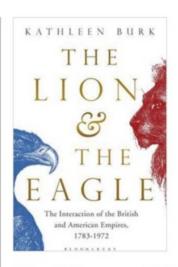


## Inside the Neolithic Mind

By David Lewis-Williams and David Pearce

Thames and Hudson, £12.99, paperback, 320 pages

Now being reprinted a decade after its original publication, *Inside the Neolithic Mind* is a fascinating examination of how ancient humans understood the vastness of the universe and the resulting sense of spiritual awe. Surveying an array of archaeological finds, the authors argue that "altered states of consciousness" may have provided the basis for art and religion thousands of years ago.

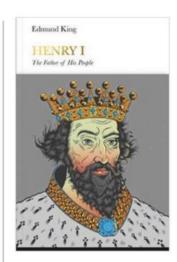


## The Lion and the Eagle: The Interaction of the British and American Empires, 1783-1972

By Kathleen Burk

Bloomsbury, £30, hardback, 576 pages

With Donald Trump's recent visit to the UK putting the 'special relationship' back onto the news agenda, this considered and weighty account of its past tells the longer story. Passing through decades of cooperation, conflict and negotiation, it's an absorbing study of how two nations wrestled with global power.

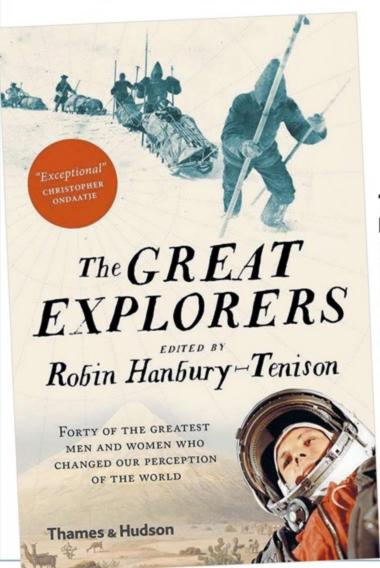


## Henry I: The Father of His People

By Edmund King

Allen Lane, £12.99, hardback, 128 pages

The 12th-century English king Henry I was not, by all accounts, to be messed with. Yet as well as his ruthlessness, this pocket biography – the latest in the ongoing Penguin Monarchs series – paints a picture of a man who negotiated a torturous path to the throne to become a clever, considered and charismatic ruler.

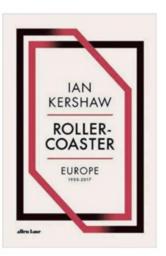


## The Great Explorers

Edited by Robin Hanbury-Tenison

Thames and Hudson, £9.99, paperback, 256 pages

Spanning oceans and rivers, frozen and Sun-blasted wastes, and the infinite reaches of space, this collection of stories of the world's great explorers packs a lot into its slender page count. There are famous names here – including Christopher Columbus and Roald Amundsen – but less well-known figures, too, such as Gertrude Bell and Nain Singh Rawat. It's a vivid testament to human wanderlust.

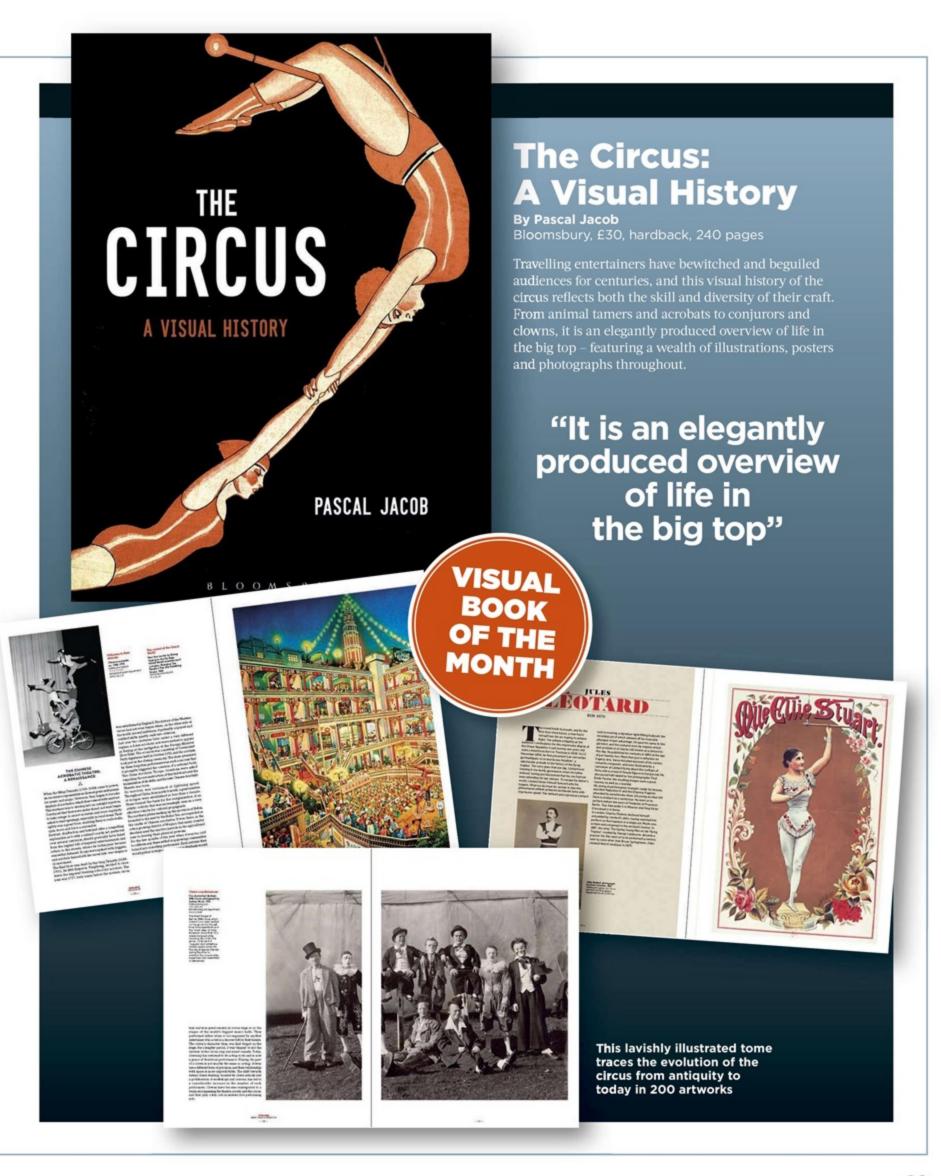


## Roller-Coaster: Europe, 1950-2017

By Ian Kershaw

Allen Lane, £30, hardback, 704 pages

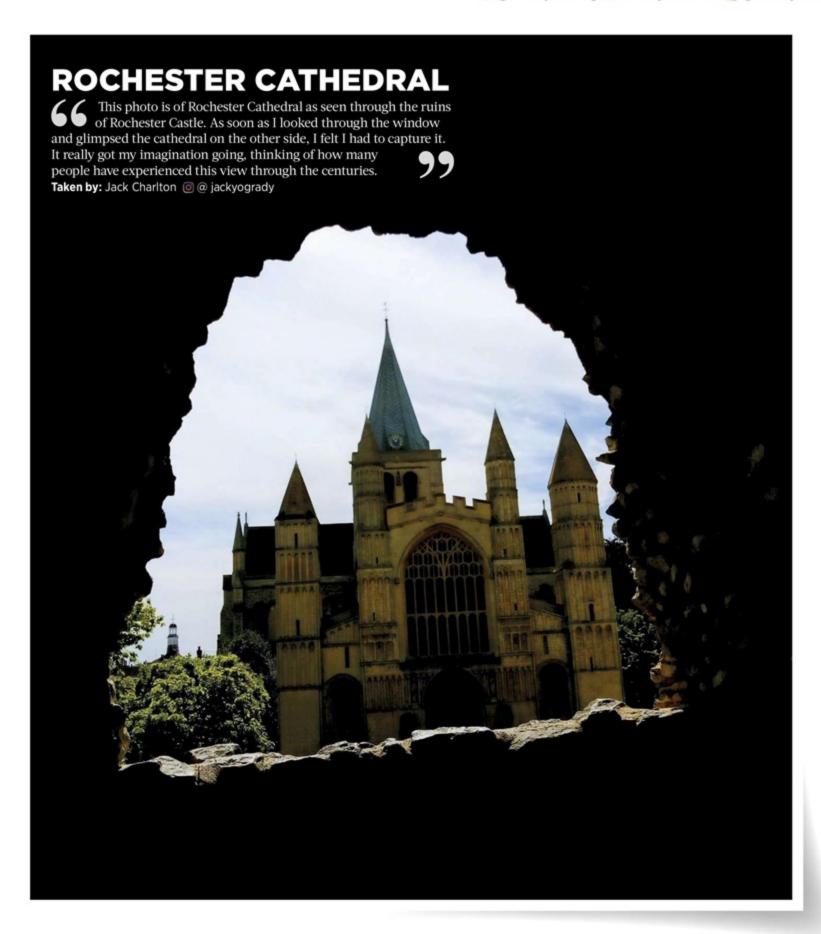
Distinguished historian Ian Kershaw turns his attention from the horrors of war that studded the first decades of the 20th century to the relative peace Europe witnessed in the years from 1950. Armed conflict may have abated, and many of the continent's citizens enjoyed increasing prosperity, but other threats lingered: nuclear Armageddon, economic collapse and global interdependence. This is timely, thought-provoking, large-scale history.



## POSTCARDS FROM THE PAST

SEND IN YOUR PHOTOS

Send your historical landmark pics to **photos@historyrevealed.com** message us on Facebook or use **#historyrevpostcards** on Twitter and Instagram

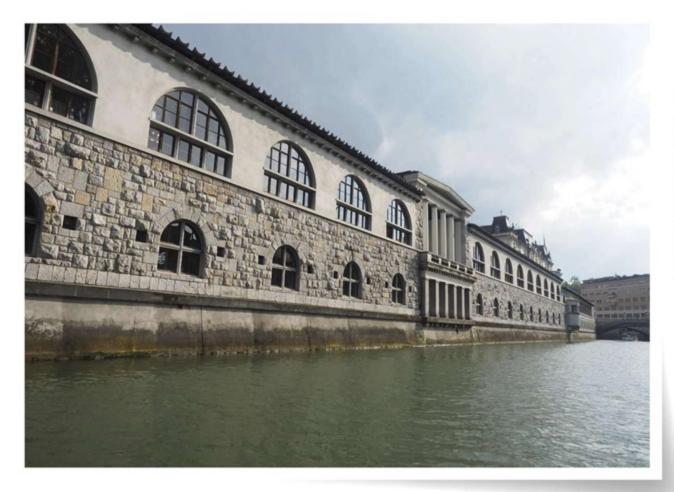


## FALKLAND PALACE, FIFE

I worked in this magnificent building for a long time and grew to love its Renaissance styling and Stuart history. I was granted permission to do some photography one night after the site was closed. As it grew dark, the typical Scottish sky began to boil and contrast with the setting Sun, which set the walls of the palace afire.

Taken by: Chris Rock, via email





## LJUBLJANA MARKET

Set alongside the Ljubljanica River, this historic market is right at the heart of the Slovenian capital. As I went past on my boat trip, I had to get a snap of it. It was designed by Jože Plečnik, the man behind many of Ljubljana's most distinctive buildings, as well as several others in Prague and Vienna.

Taken by: Megan Shersby, via email

## **FEELING INSPIRED?**

Send your snaps to us and we'll feature a selection every issue. photos@historyrevealed.com

## **READERS' LETTERS**

Get in touch - share your opinions on history and our magazine

## A BLESSING OR A CURSE?

I thoroughly enjoyed your recent article on castles (July 2018), but while you allude to the great stone edifices being a boost to a lord's status, you seem to ignore one essential point. Most castles were symbols of oppression. They were built, in the main, by conquerors, and their purpose was to keep the populace in a state of subjugation. Virtually all of the great concentric castles of North Wales - Harlech, Caernarfon, Beaumaris and



the north, and Normans and Flemish weavers moved in.
The divide remains extreme, and is best seen in the fact that Welsh is spoken in the north of Pembrokeshire but not in the south. Known as the 'Landsker Line', this divide across the county is marked by a series of

## "Most castles were symbols of oppression. They were built, in the main, by conquerors"

the rest - were constructed on the orders of Edward I and his successors to keep the Welsh from rising in revolt.

Perhaps this is best seen in the county of Pembrokeshire. In the 12th century, there was a great transplantation as Welsh people were moved out - or sometimes chose to move - from their homes in the south of the county. The Welsh farmers went to border castles, the aim of which was to keep the Welsh out.

Starting with Amroth, the line of castles includes Roch, Wiston, Llawhaden and Narberth, and finishes on the coast near St Davids. The castles had but one purpose - keep the south of the county safe! As a process, it was amazingly successful. Elizabethan historian George Owen wrote about villages in Pembrokeshire

in which the Landsker Line ran down the middle of the street: one side, Welsh speaking, the other, Elizabethan English.

Keep up the good work. As an illustrative guide to our history, History Revealed cannot be bettered.

Phil Carradice, St Athan

## Julian Humphrys' reply

Thanks for an interesting letter, Phil, and I'm glad that you enjoyed the articles.

Whether a castle was seen as a symbol of oppression depended partly on circumstances and partly on the viewer – history often is a matter of opinion. For example, while the Welsh probably saw Conwy Castle in that way, the English who lived

in the town beneath it may have seen it very differently. I suspect that many of those whose homes were under the shadow of the huge number of castles built along the Anglo-Welsh border may well have viewed them as places of protection as much as symbols of oppression.

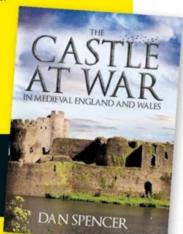
ILL TIDINGS

Phil doubts that

the proliferation of castles was a good

thing for the Welsh

One thing we can agree on is that castles have left an undeniable mark on our landscape and the story of our past.



EVOLUTION OF THE CASTI

Phil wins a hardback copy of *The Castle at War in Medieval England and Wales* by Dan Spencer. It's an exploration of the evolving role of the castle in warfare, from the Norman Conquest through to the reign of Henry VIII.

## **OUR READERS' TOP CASTLES**

We celebrated our ultimate guide to castles in issue 57 by asking you to name your favourite castles – these are the most popular of the ones suggested so far.



### BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The oldest castle to be continuously occupied by the same family, it was also the site of Edward II's murder.

### BERRY POMEROY, DEVON

This romantic ruin was once home to Edward Seymour, Lord Protector and uncle of Edward VI.

## BROUGH, CUMBRIA

Built by William II on the site of a Roman fort, this motte and bailey was a frequent target for Scottish raids.

## HASTINGS, EAST SUSSEX

Work began on this castle almost immediately after the Norman Conquest in 1066. Violent storms have caused much of it to fall into the sea.

## WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE

Home to the Queen on weekends, this is the largest and oldest inhabited castle in the world – the foundations were laid in 1070.

What you would add to the list? Get in touch on ☐ Facebook, ☐ Twitter or by emailing us at haveyoursay@ historyrevealed.com

What a great story in the July issue of @HistoryRevMag talking about Nadia Comaneci "Perfect 10" on the Uneven Bars in 1976! #GymnasticsExpress #Gymnastics #History @GymXpress

#### THE KISSING GAME

After reading the article on Ancient Games (July 2018), we'd suggest that an ancient Irish game called Fidchell should also be included. It appears in many ancient Irish legends, including the wooing of Étaín.

Midir challenges the High King of Ireland, Eochaidh, to a game of Fidchell. He pretends not be as good at it as he is, so he loses all of their bets, which include creating a forest and building a road in a bog - this is said to be the Iron Age trackway in Corlea, County Longford.

Midir eventually demands a kiss from Étaín – Eochaidh's wife, and previously his, though she has forgotten. He wins, and the saga continues. We are unsure how the game was played, but the idea was to keep the king safe in the middle.

### Ann and Annette,

Ardagh, County Longford



### HATS OFF TO YOU

Geoffrey is sure the real truth behind Henry IV's headscarf is linked to the woes of more recent portrait painters

## STOLEN IDENTITY

It is a pity that no-one studying art history replied to your original Q&A on Henry IV's headgear (June 2018), as the answer given and subsequent letter (July 2018) do not tell the full story.

The portrait comes from one of the 16th-century sets of kings and queens, originally created to hang in long galleries of country houses. One of the largest surviving examples, painted 1590-1630, is on display in the National Portrait Gallery. They reveal the problems faced by artists attempting to create authentic images where none survive taken from life: the early one are mostly fictitious, derived

from printed engravings. For Henry IV, the solution was to adapt an existing foreign image of Charles VI of France.

This was roughly of the right date, with the addition of a moustache and beard, and the falcon substituted with a red rose. Numerous copies exist, divorced from their sets, and they continue to be reproduced as the Lancastrian king.

Geoffrey Wheeler, London

## A RELATIVE WRONG

In your article on the Romanovs (August 2018), you say George V and Nicholas II were both grandsons of Queen Victoria. I didn't think this was correct? Claire Watson, Leicester

## Editor's reply

You are quite right, Claire. George is Victoria's grandson, but Nicholas is not. As you point out in your longer letter, Nicholas and George are actually first cousins. They are related through their mothers - Alexandra of Denmark and Maria Feodorovna (known before her marriage as Dagmar of Denmark) - who were sisters.

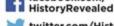
GOD SAVE THE KING Protecting the king is the only rule Ann and Annette know of Fidchell, an Irish contender for our top ancient games

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The lucky winners of the crossword from issue 56 are: John Richards, Abingdon Anne Coghlan, Morecambe Barbara Bacon, Nuneaton

Congratulations! You've each won a copy of Churchill: The Greatest Briton in hardback, RRP £20.

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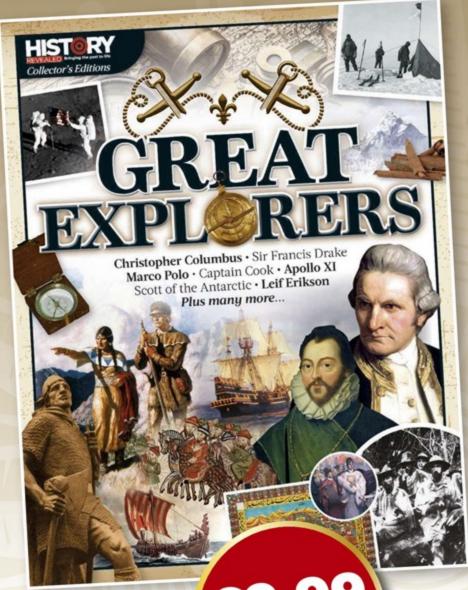






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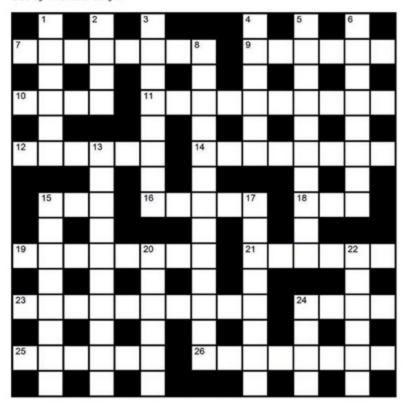
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## **CROSSWORD N° 59**

Test your history knowledge to solve our prize puzzle - and you could win a fantastic new book

Set by Richard Smyth



#### **ACROSS**

- 7 Figure from European folklore - one such as Peter Stumpp (d.1589), supposedly? (8)
- **9** Traditional hooded coat of the Caribou Inuit (6)
- 10 Major goddess in the religion of Ancient Egypt (4)
- 11 British colonial territory, now part of Tanzania (10)
- **12** City of Ancient China, destroyed by the Ming army in 1369 (6)
- **14** Series of fantasy works by writer Ursula K Le Guin (1929–2018) (8)
- 15 Roman salutation (3)
- **16** Mary \_\_\_ (b.1955), English classicist and author (5)
- 18 Charles the \_\_\_\_, epithet

- given to Charles VI of France (1368-1422) (3)
- **19** Criminal released by Pilate in Biblical accounts of the Crucifixion (8)
- 21 Russian space programme launched in 1961 (6)
- 23 English city where cholera broke out in October 1831 (10)
- 24 Richard Albert \_\_\_ (1905-36), murderer tried in 1924 alongside Nathan Leopold (4)
- **25** Split such as that within the Catholic Church between 1378 and 1417 (6)
- **26** The \_\_\_\_, 1971 horror novel by William Peter Blatty (8)

### DOWN

 Kingdom once ruled by Cyrus the Great and Darius I (6)

- 2 \_\_\_\_ of the D'Urbervilles, 1892 novel by Thomas Hardy (4)
- **3** General \_\_\_\_, stage name of circus performer Charles S Stratton (1838–83) (3,5)
- 4 Hedy \_\_\_ (1914-2000), Vienna-born inventor and film actress (6)
- **5** Cyclops in Homer's poem the *Odyssey* (10)
- 6 Tallulah \_\_\_ (1902-68), actress, wit and bon vivant (8)
- **8** Avant-garde novel by James Joyce, published in 1939 (9,4)
- 13 Ancient capital of Ptolemaic Egypt (10)
- 15 Port city in Mexico, besieged in April 1854 by Antonio López de Santa Anna (8)
- **17** John \_\_\_ (1857-1909), Scottish poet, best known for *Thirty Bob a Week* (8)
- 20 Ancient warship with two decks of oars (6)
- **22** Ukrainian city, founded in 1794 by a decree of Catherine the Great (6)
- **24** Name given to a female Australopithecus skeleton found in Ethiopia in 1974 (4)

## **CHANCE TO WIN**

### Heimat

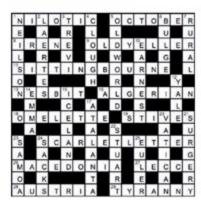
The magnum opus of director Edgar Reitz, Heimat (Homeland) begins in 1919, in the aftermath of Germany's defeat in World War I, and follows the curves of history through a single family's eyes all the way up to 1982. It's famed both for its ambition and its length, with a runtime of almost 15 hours. Released by Second Sight Films, £54.99



#### **HOW TO ENTER**

Post entries to History Revealed, September 2018 Crossword. PO Box 501, Leicester LE94 OAA or email them to september2018@ historyrevealedcomps.co.uk by noon on 1 October 2018. By entering, participants agree to be bound by the terms and conditions shown in the box below. Immediate Media Co Ltd. publishers of History Revealed, would love to keep you informed by post or telephone of special offers and promotions from the Immediate Media Co Group, Please write 'Do Not Contact IMC' if you prefer not to receive such information by post or phone. If you would like to receive this information by email, please write your email address on the entry. You may unsubscribe from receiving these messages at any time. For more about the Immediate Privacy Policy, see the box below.

#### **SOLUTION N° 57**



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## Elizabeth & Victoria

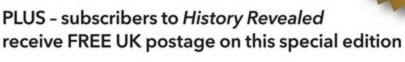
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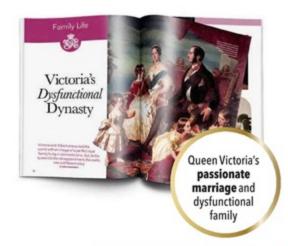
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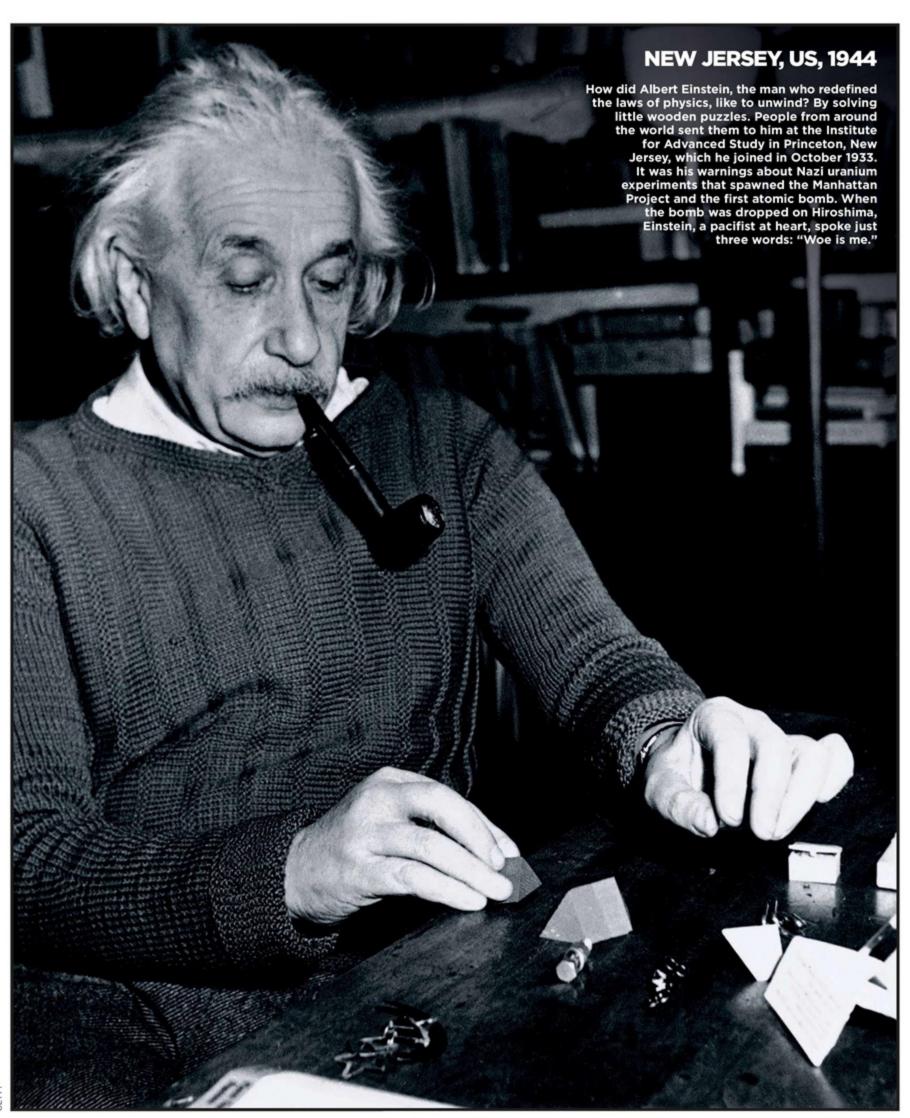
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